

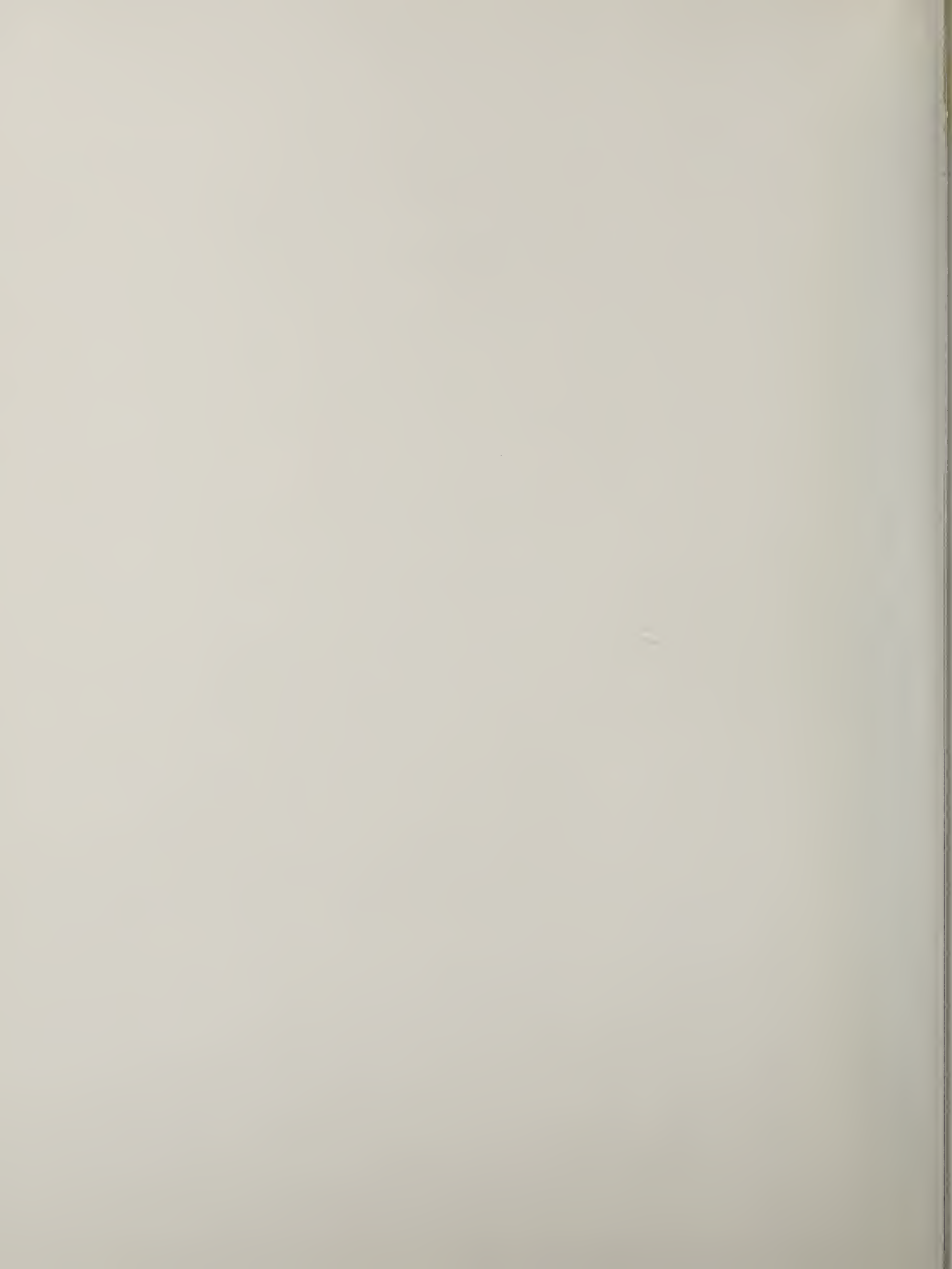
AFB American Foundation
for the Blind

Expanding possibilities for people with vision loss

AFB Directory of Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons in the United States and Canada



**27th
Edition**



AFB DIRECTORY OF SERVICES FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

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Expanding possibilities for people with vision loss

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The American Foundation for the Blind—the organization to which Helen Keller devoted her life—is a national nonprofit devoted to expanding the possibilities available to Americans with vision loss.

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Foreword

In 1926, only five years after its own founding as an organization designed to be an independent national research and information center, the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) published its first directory of services. That a national service directory was produced so quickly after the very inception of AFB indicates both the great need that existed and was expressed for information on available services and the desire of AFB to support blind and visually impaired persons, their families, and professionals who worked with them. Since that time, AFB has continued to publish the *AFB Directory of Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons in the United States and Canada* to meet the same pressing need and with the same critical purpose: to provide useful, comprehensive information that helps persons who are visually impaired and their families find the assistance they need and to help professionals identify, coordinate, and deliver services effectively. In the process, AFB's *Directory* has become the most important reference and referral resource in the field of blindness and visual impairment.

The nature of information and the way in which people seek it out has changed dramatically since the inception of the *Directory*. This new edition has the same purpose as its predecessors, but it reflects the dynamic and rapidly changing ways in which information today is created and shared. The 27th edition of the *Directory* is the first to have been compiled on the basis of an updating process taking place via the Internet and undertaken by the organizations listed within these pages. The *Directory* Online Center, a special area on AFB's web site, has been designed as a portal through which information flows directly from agencies in the visual impairment field to those who seek it. The revision of the organizational profiles readers will find here was facilitated through the use of that new center. Readers will also find useful new features in this 27th edition that include helpful indexes appearing at the beginning of each state section, expanded listings of products for people with visual impairments, and new service categories, such as in-home services and state technology programs.

Users of this print edition of the *Directory* have access to the fully accessible online edition of the *Directory* as well, through which they can search an entire array of organizations and services with ease. We at AFB invite suggestions and comments on how to improve this important resource, which is constantly growing and evolving in light of the developments and demands of our information age. The *Directory* is the product of the efforts and collaboration of AFB Press and other AFB staff in many departments and areas and of the suggestions and assistance of many professionals outside AFB. We would like to express our

appreciation for the hard work of everyone involved and to thank all the organizations and individuals who supplied us with the information that is included here.

Carl R. Augusto
President and CEO
American Foundation for the Blind

How to Use This Directory

The American Foundation for the Blind's *AFB Directory of Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons in the United States and Canada* has been providing comprehensive information on organizations and agencies in the field of blindness and visual impairment for more than 80 years. This 27th edition of the *Directory*, available in print and in a fully accessible online version, offers readers information on over 1,500 sources of services and assistance for people who are blind or visually impaired. The *Directory* compiles listings of schools, agencies, organizations, and programs in the governmental and private, nonprofit sectors that provide a wide variety of direct and indirect services, information, and other help to blind and visually impaired children and adults, their families, and professionals who work with them. Information is also included on producers and distributors of braille, large-print publications, audiotape, and other alternate media; specialized computer hardware and software and other assistive technology and adapted devices; and other products used by people who are visually impaired. Unlike other sources of information that offer users contact information only, the *Directory* has always been unique in providing not only detailed contact information but also a full and specific description of the services available at an organization, based on information supplied directly by the individual organizations themselves. A listing in the *Directory* does not imply endorsement or evaluation by AFB. Additional information on accreditation and evaluation of agencies can be obtained from the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving People with Blindness and Visual Impairment (listed

under "United States Organizations, National Organizations").

This introduction explains how to find organizations and services in both the print and online versions of the *Directory*. "An Overview of Services" and "A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs" offer detailed information about the kinds of organizations that assist people who are blind or visually impaired and the nature of the services they offer. "A Glossary of Common Terms" explains some of the specialized terms frequently used in the *Directory* and in the field of visual impairment, as well as some common abbreviations.

The *Directory* is designed to provide information about both the United States and Canada, and it is divided into major sections for ease of use. Each organization's profile includes contact information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, and web site addresses, as well as the names of key staff members; general information about the organization such as eligibility requirements, sources of funding, date of establishment, and additional offices; and a description of services offered by the organization. All the information provided in the print *Directory* is also available in the fully accessible online *Directory*, which allows users to conduct web-based searches of the *Directory's* detailed database.

THE PRINT DIRECTORY

The listings or organizational profiles in the print *Directory* are divided into several main sections. Organizations in the United States are listed in a separate section that is divided by state. Within the states, organizations are listed alphabetically.

Similarly, organizations in Canada have been listed in a separate section divided by province and, within each province, are listed in alphabetical order.

Publishers who distribute their publications on a national and international scale and producers and distributors of adapted products for persons with visual impairments are listed in separate sections for readers' convenience. Within these sections, organizations are arranged in alphabetical order.

In the paragraphs that follow, the various sections of the print *Directory* are described in more detail, and ways in which services and information can be located in the *Directory* are explored.

Finding an Organization or Service

The print *Directory* has the following main sections:

Section 1, **United States Organizations**, lists organizations in the United States, beginning with a listing of federal agencies, followed by national organizations that serve more than their state or local area. These are followed by geographical listings arranged alphabetically by state (including territories and the District of Columbia).

Section 2, **Canadian Organizations**, lists organizations in Canada, beginning with listings of federal agencies, followed by national organizations that serve more than their state or local area. These are followed by geographical listings arranged alphabetically by province or territory.

Section 3, **United States/Canadian Publishers of Braille, Audio, and Other Nonprint Formats**, lists national publishers that produce a variety of books, magazines, and other materials in alternative media such as braille, large print, audiotope, and, increasingly, in computer formats such as disks, CD-ROMS, or e-books.

Section 4, **United States/Canadian Manufacturers/Distributors of Products for Persons with Visual Impairments**, lists suppliers of products that are specially designed for use by persons who are visually impaired to promote independent living, such as adapted products for

personal and household use; magnifiers and other specialized low vision devices; and computer software and hardware.

Section 5, the **Alphabetical Index**, lists all entries in the *Directory*, arranged alphabetically for easy reference. U.S. and Canadian organizations are listed in separate sections.

The federal listings in Sections 1 and 2 contain departments and agencies of the U.S. or Canadian government that have responsibilities for overseeing or administering programs and services for people who are blind or visually impaired. In the United States, these include the agencies that are charged with implementing and enforcing the Americans with Disabilities Act; the U.S. Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Labor, Transportation, and Veterans Affairs; and various other agencies. In Canada, they include Social Development Canada, Office for Disability Issues, and a variety of federal departments that promote disability initiatives in their own areas.

The listings of national organizations include those whose mission extends beyond providing services to individuals in a given local area. Generally these organizations engage in such activities as advocacy, research, information and referral, and service provision for a defined constituency across the country or internationally. These include national membership organizations, which provide an opportunity for consumers and professionals in the field of blindness and visual impairment to join together and thereby participate in an organizational mission and receive representation as well as the benefits of membership.

The information in the *Directory* is organized so that services can be found in a number of ways:

1. *By alphabetical order.* To find a specific organization when its name is known, consult the alphabetical index at the end of this book to find the page number for its listing. Organizations are also listed alphabetically in the sections for the states or provinces in which they are located or in the category, such as National Organizations, to which they belong.

2. *By geographical location.* Organizations and agencies in the *Directory* have been grouped according to whether they serve people throughout the country or primarily individuals in their

state or local area. Thus, "**Federal Agencies**" and "**National Organizations**" are in sections separate from state listings. In general, readers may wish to start a search for information or services by consulting national organizations, since they are often the most broadly knowledgeable about services in the field of visual impairment. However, most of the organizations in the *Directory* are listed alphabetically within their state or province, so that readers can easily find services in locations near them.

3. *By organization type.* For the convenience of users of the *Directory*, organizations and agencies listed have been categorized into types of organizations, based on the kinds of services they provide. (These organization types are described in the following section.) These designations are shown at the beginning of each state's and province's listings in a special index; at the beginning of each organizational profile; and for sections such as "**Federal Agencies**," "**National Organizations**," and "**United States/Canadian Publishers of Braille, Audio and Nonprint Formats**."

Key State Agencies and Resources

Although services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired vary across the country, certain agencies in each state are a pivotal source of information about services. At the beginning of the listings for each state is a box entitled "**Key State Agencies and Resources**," which gives the key contacts or lead agency in the state for services related to such critical areas as aging, early intervention, education, instructional materials, and rehabilitation. The agencies listed in this box are places to begin looking for assistance in these categories or areas; they are able to give information and make referrals to specific local agencies. Some local agencies may also provide services to people even if they do not live in the immediate area.

For example, a person with a parent who has a visual impairment living in Florida would find it helpful to look at the first page of the Florida section in the "**Key State Agencies and Resources**" box to find the lead agency for aging services (if the parent were 55 years and older). It would also be useful to contact the state rehabilitation agency

and one of the national organizations that provide information and referral for some general information about the parent's eye condition, the types of services to which elderly individuals are entitled, additional services that exist for family members, and national membership organizations for family members.

The specific services or agencies listed "**Key State Agencies and Resources**" are the following: *Aging Services*. Under this category are Independent Living Programs and State Units on Aging. Organizations categorized as Independent Living Programs provide services to visually impaired individuals over age 55 who are not candidates for vocational rehabilitation—that is, who do not have employment as their goal—under the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program (Title VII, Chapter 2, of the U.S. Rehabilitation Act of 1973). These services may include training in the skills of daily living, provision of adaptive devices and appliances, low vision services, orientation and mobility (O&M) training, training in communication skills, family and peer counseling, and community integration. State Units on Aging are agencies established in each state under the Older Americans Act of 1965. These agencies provide referrals to local agencies that specialize in services for older people—such as senior centers, home care agencies, geriatric medical practices, assisted living facilities, social work agencies, and the like. They can also provide information on local Area Agencies on Aging, which coordinate aging services in their immediate areas.

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency.

A designated agency in each state oversees the provision of early intervention services to infants and young children who are blind or visually impaired and their families. States in the United States are mandated by federal law to provide free early childhood services for children from birth to age 3 who have a disability or are at risk of developmental delay and their families. Early intervention typically includes such services as assessment of a child's condition and needs, developmental enrichment, and coordination of health and social services. The lead agency in this area

may be housed in a state department of education, health, human services, or rehabilitation, although some are in agencies outside the state system. These agencies can usually provide referrals to local programs.

Educational Services. In each state in the United States and each province in Canada, an educational agency is responsible for overseeing educational services to visually impaired children—typically, a division of the state or provincial Department of Education. Educational services are usually provided to children from birth through age 21. This agency administers state funds for these services and provides consultation to local school districts and agencies. It may provide referrals to local programs, although the local school district may be a more direct source of information.

Instructional Materials Centers. Most states have state-designated instructional materials centers (also known as instructional resource centers), whose function is the provision of adapted materials, such as braille textbooks, large print, and texts on tape, for visually impaired students, usually through either grade 12 or age 21. They also provide library functions and materials for professionals in the field. Their operation and funding differ; most are affiliated with state departments of education, but some are affiliated with schools for blind students, state departments for visually impaired persons, or U.S. Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped regional libraries. Instructional materials centers generally serve school districts rather than individual students or persons outside the school system.

Schools for the Blind. Also known as special schools, these are state-sponsored residential or day schools specifically geared to serve children from kindergarten to grade 12 who are blind or visually impaired. These schools may also provide a variety of related counseling, rehabilitation, health, low vision, outreach, and other services.

Rehabilitation Services. In each state, an agency is responsible for overseeing rehabilitation services provided to individuals in the state. Many states provide services for people who are blind or visually impaired through a separate state rehabilitation agency for blind persons (sometimes called the state commission for the blind), whereas others provide services through a division or department of the state vocational rehabilitation agency. Services vary from state to state. Generally, rehabilitation services are provided to adults who have recently lost their vision and are adjusting to blindness and to young adults who are making the transition from school to adulthood. Some states also provide rehabilitation services for children. The state rehabilitation agency generally provides services itself and usually has a network of local offices.

Types of Organizations

In addition to the categories in "**Key State Agencies and Resources**," the organizations in the *Directory* are categorized into organization types. Some organizations may have several functions and therefore be categorized as more than one organization type. Following "**Key State Agencies and Resources**" in the state listings and at the beginning of all provincial listings is an index that provides a convenient overview of services by listing all the organizations in the state or province in alphabetical order under each organization type. (These indexes do not include federal and key state agencies, or organizations listed in Section 4.) Following is a description of the organization types used in the *Directory*:

Alternate Media Producers. These organizations produce books, textbooks, and other materials in alternative media—that is, in formats other than regular print that are accessible for people who are blind or visually impaired, such as braille, large print, audiocassettes, and e-books. This category also includes braille transcribers who convert specific materials into braille for individuals or groups on request, as well as companies that

produce alternate media versions of other organizations' publications for distribution (such as by recording Talking Books). In addition to the organizations listed in this category, many school districts and educational agencies produce materials in alternate media for students, and many local libraries contain books in large-print and audio formats. See also the category of Instructional Materials Centers under "**Key State Agencies and Resources.**"

Dog Guide Schools. The schools listed in this category train and provide dog guides for people who are blind and instruct blind people in how to work with their dogs. Individuals who are mature and able to care for a dog learn how to form a working partnership with a dog guide to negotiate the travel environment.

Educational Agencies. Agencies listed in this category provide educational services to children from birth to age 21, but are not themselves schools. These services include early intervention, infant and preschool programs, outreach efforts, elementary and secondary school programs, and assistance with transitions from one service program to another. They may be agencies that supply itinerant teachers to provide services either in school or student homes. Educational services may also be found by using the categories of Early Intervention (under "**Key State Agencies and Resources**"), Infant/Preschool Agencies, and Schools for the Blind.

Infant/Preschool Agencies. This category identifies local agencies that provide early intervention services specifically geared for infants and preschool-age children who are blind or visually impaired. These services may include outreach to locate children who may require early intervention; educational and developmental services; counseling; health services; preschool; recreation; and the like. Services may be provided either in the child's home or in an agency or school.

Information/Referral Centers. The organizations listed in this category provide general information about blindness and visual impairment, as well as referrals for additional information and services. These are generally nonprofit organizations, frequently national organizations or their local affiliates.

Libraries. Libraries are listed here that provide special materials and services for people who are blind or visually impaired. This category also includes regional and subregional libraries of the U.S. Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, headquartered in Washington, DC, which lends free reading materials on tape, disk, or braille to individuals throughout the country who are unable to read regular print books because of a visual or physical disability. In addition, some of these libraries provide additional assistive equipment such as magnifiers or reading machines; resources such as volunteer readers; and materials such as large-print books and disability-related information and catalogs, as well as serving as reference libraries on blindness and visual impairment.

Low Vision Centers/Clinics. Organizations listed in this category provide special services for people with low vision—that is, individuals who are severely visually impaired but are usually able to use vision at least some of the time for some everyday activities. Services may include a low vision evaluation (a specialized examination to assess the abilities and needs of an individual with low vision) and prescription of low vision devices, such as magnifiers, and training in their use.

Membership Organizations—Consumer. Organizations in this category consist of consumers in the field of blindness and visual impairment who have joined together as members to participate in the organization's mission and receive representation as well as the benefits of membership.

Membership Organizations—Professional. Organizations in this category consist of

professionals in the field of blindness and visual impairment who have joined together as members to participate in the organization's mission and receive representation as well as the benefits of membership.

National Organizations. Organizations in this category generally engage in such activities as advocacy, research, information and referral, and service for a defined constituency across the country or internationally.

National Publishers. This category lists companies that publish their own books and other materials in alternate media (braille, audio, large print, and/or e-book) for widespread distribution, usually for sale.

Postsecondary Institutions. This category lists postsecondary institutions or programs within each state or province that offer degree programs and areas of concentration to prepare professionals to work with individuals who are blind or visually impaired in various capacities, for example as teachers of students who are blind or visually impaired, O&M specialists, rehabilitation teachers, or rehabilitation counselors. This category also includes offices in postsecondary institutions that provide effective supplementary aids and services for their students who are blind or visually impaired so that they may have equal access to the community as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Radio Reading Stations. The organizations listed in this category broadcast information, such as newspaper articles, books, and consumer information, to people with visual, physical, and reading disabilities. They usually operate on unused radio frequencies and require a special receiver.

Rehabilitation Agencies. The agencies listed in this category provide services directly to people who are blind or visually impaired. Types of services include rehabilitation (adjusting to blindness and learning to function in everyday activities, including

O&M, communication, and daily living skills); counseling; vocational training and employment services; health and low vision services; recreation; computer training, and so forth. These agencies may provide services in residential facilities, schools or centers, or clients' homes. In addition, assisted living facilities provide independent living arrangements for blind or visually impaired individuals who are able to live on their own if certain services are available on the premises; residences for people who are blind or visually impaired; and sheltered workshops or industries for the blind employ individuals who work in a regulated environment.

Research Organizations. Organizations listed in this category disseminate information and support research on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of eye diseases.

Residential Facilities. This category refers to facilities that provide living quarters for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Schools for the Blind. This category lists state-sponsored and other residential or day schools that are specifically geared to serve children from kindergarten to grade 12 who are blind or visually impaired. In addition to educational services, these schools may also provide a variety of related counseling, rehabilitation, health, low vision, outreach, and other services.

Social Service Organizations. Organizations listed in this category provide services such as counseling, self-help, and support groups; homemaking services; and assistance with transportation, food, clothing, medication, and other services.

State Technology Programs. The organizations listed in this category provide alternative financing for the purchase or lease of equipment, training and technical support for equipment, short-term loans of equipment, referrals for repairs and servicing of equipment, demonstration of equipment, and

referrals for evaluation and assessment related to the selection and integration of appropriate assistive technology.

Types of Services

In addition to classifying organizations according to the categories just described, the *Directory* also provides descriptions of services offered by the organizations. The information in these descriptions is provided by the organizations themselves directly to the *Directory* or through their web sites. Following is a description of the service categories used in the *Directory*.

Accessibility. All services related to the provision of materials in accessible formats for visually impaired consumers and to bringing building facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Advocacy. Services directed toward ensuring that people who are blind or visually impaired have access to benefits, vocational rehabilitation, and other programs available to them in the community and that their interests are appropriately represented by their policymakers and government agencies.

Aging. All services specifically targeted to adults who are visually impaired and over age 55. These may include direct services, such as training in the skills of daily living, provision of adaptive devices and appliances, low vision services, and family and peer counseling, or referrals to local agencies that specialize in services for older people, such as senior centers, home care agencies, geriatric medical practices, and assisted living facilities.

Assessment. Specialized evaluative processes conducted by professionals to determine the present needs and skill levels of clients.

Assistive Products. All services related to the provision of assistive products and training in their use for clients who are blind or visually impaired, either for a fee or for free. These include technical support offered by manufacturers and distributors of such products as well as repair services.

Audiodescription/Videodescription.

Descriptions and explanations of the visual aspects of films, television programs, or plays to make them understandable to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. These services also encompass the training of guides, describers, docents, or anyone who provides or is interested in providing this kind of narration.

Braille and Reading Instruction. Instruction and training in alternate methods of reading, such as the use of braille and optical devices, to promote literacy among blind and visually impaired persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production.

Creation of materials in braille, audio, or large print upon the request of agencies or individuals.

Business/Personal Services. Special personal services, such as pick up and delivery services and personal shopping assistance, to support and accommodate the needs of clients who are blind or visually impaired.

Computer Training. Training in the use of appropriate computers and assistive technology. Computer training encompasses training in the use of such equipment as closed-circuit television systems, computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, and word processing software. It also includes computer training for instructors of students and other individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Consultation/Technical Assistance. Advice, assistance, and consultative support by specialized staff to local school systems, teachers of visually impaired students, and other agencies or professionals who work with blind and visually impaired persons.

Counseling. Clinical evaluations, counseling, referrals, and support provided by professionals, such as psychologists and

counselors, to visually impaired individuals and family members.

Distance Education. Off-campus programs for students who are working toward degrees or certification in specializations in the field of blindness and visual impairment.

Dog Guide. Instruction on how to work with a dog guide to negotiate the travel environment.

Early Intervention. Services provided to infants, usually from birth to age 3, and their families to promote early childhood development. These may include assessment of a child's condition and needs, developmental enrichment, family-centered support, and coordination of health, social, and related services.

Education Services. Services related to the education of blind and visually impaired children and young adults, usually from birth through age 21. These include services offered by agencies that provide adapted instructional materials and state and other agencies responsible for overseeing educational services to blind and visually impaired students.

Employment. Career and skill counseling, prevocational evaluation, career preparation training, and vocational placement.

Financial Assistance. Assistance with obtaining funding or loans for vision-related expenses, such as assistive technology equipment.

Health/Fitness. Programs that promote physical and mental fitness.

Health/Medical. General medical and related services, such as eye evaluations, treatment of eye conditions, genetic counseling, and other assistance.

Housing Services. Housing facilities or a variety of assistance related to the provision of housing for individuals, such as information and referrals to independent living arrangements, nursing homes, or assisted living facilities.

Information and Referral. General information about blindness and visual impairment and referrals to sources of other information and services.

In-Home Services. Services to individuals who are unable to avail themselves of services outside their homes as a result of an illness, functional limitations in activities of daily living, or disability. These services may be homemaker services, which include day-to-day household services such as housekeeping, laundry, limited personal care, grocery shopping, meal preparation, correspondence assistance, shopping assistance, and other nonmedical assistance provided in the client's home, and health care services, which include assistance for a health-related condition by paraprofessional personnel such as home health aides, personal care aides, and nursing assistants.

Legal Services. Advice, counseling, information or representation with regard to legal matters provided by a licensed attorney or trained paralegal.

Library. Organized, often formal, collections of materials in print or other formats for blind and visually impaired individuals and the professionals who work with them.

Low Vision. Evaluation and testing of a client's vision; prescription of appropriate optical devices; support, follow-up, and referrals to other appropriate agencies and professionals. These services also include the provision of nonoptical (such as lamps, filters, bold-lined paper, writing guides) and optical devices (such as magnifiers, microscopes, telescopes) and training in their use.

Orientation and Mobility (O&M). Training in the use of systematic techniques by which people who are blind or visually impaired orient themselves to their environment and move about independently.

Parent Assistance. Consultation and referrals to appropriate agencies, parent workshops, and in-home visits and support services

provided to parents of blind and visually impaired children.

Personnel Preparation. Degree programs and areas of concentration to prepare professionals to work in various capacities with individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Services in this category also include distance education or off-campus programs for students who are working toward degrees or certification in specializations in the field of blindness and visual impairment.

Preschool. Programs specifically geared for infants and preschool-age children who are blind or visually impaired.

Professional Training. Programs such as workshops, seminars, and in-service meetings whose objective is to train personnel who work with blind and visually impaired people.

Reading Services. Radio broadcasts of newspaper articles, books, and consumer information for people with visual, physical, and reading disabilities, provided over otherwise unused radio frequencies; these services also include telephone reader or personal reader services.

Recreation. Leisure activities, such as those related to arts and crafts, sports, music, and drama, provided for blind and visually impaired persons.

Rehabilitation. Training in adapted techniques for daily living and work activities, such as home management, personal management, communication, and travel, and other adaptive skills.

Support Groups. Periodic meetings that provide participants with the opportunity to share information and talk about common experiences for mutual support, usually run by a facilitator or a professional who can provide guidance.

Transportation. Transportation provided either for free for eligible clients or for a fee to people with disabilities and senior citizens without transportation options or who cannot

use public transportation due to their disability.

Volunteer Services. Assistance with daily chores, reading services, and other personal services provided by volunteers.

THE ONLINE DIRECTORY

The fully accessible online *Directory* is available in two versions—a public version and a subscriber version. The public version is offered free of charge on the AFB web site and is intended to help blind or visually impaired persons, their families, and professionals who work with them to find services they need quickly. It allows users to search for organizations by types of services offered and provides simple contact information and links to the organizations' web sites. The subscriber version offers full descriptions of the organizations in the *Directory* as well as advanced search capabilities that allow users to look for services in a variety of ways. Users may look up an organization by name, obtain a list of organizations in a particular U.S. state or Canadian province, do a selected key word search, or search for an organization by type or by services offered throughout the United States or Canada or both. A one-year subscription to the full *Directory* online is included with the purchase of a print *Directory*.

The information in the online *Directory* can be found in a number of ways:

1. *By services offered or type of organization.* The *Directory* search screen allows users to search for either one or all organization types and one or all service categories offered at a time. The Advanced Search feature allows users to search several organization types or several service categories at the same time.

2. *By geographic location.* Users may also search for an organization or services by geographic location, by selecting the U.S. state and/or Canadian province from a drop-down menu provided (State or Province field on the *Directory* screen). The results retrieved will list the organizations that match the search criteria by state and province in alphabetical order.

3. *By organization name.* In addition, users may search for an organization by name, simply by typing the name of the organization or its acronym in the Organization Name field on the *Directory*

screen. Users who do not know the full name of an organization may type a part of the organization's name in the Organization Name field and all organizations containing the typed phrase in their names will be retrieved.

4. *By selected key words.* The Selected Key Word function may be used to search on the basis of the following: organization acronym, city, state, or zip code. This feature can also be used to search for individuals by last name and can be used to search certain commonly used key terms relating to the field of visual impairment. "A Glossary of Common Terms," which appears at the front of this book and also in the online *Directory*, provides technical terms or synonyms that are frequently used.

5. *By the Advanced Search Feature.* The *Directory's* Advanced Search provides users with additional options for customizing and narrowing searches. By utilizing the Advanced Search, users will be able to combine multiple choices in several of the categories displayed.

The results of all searches are presented alphabetically and contain services in both U.S. states and Canadian provinces if the search has encompassed both countries. Because listings are presented alphabetically by state and province, organizations in Alberta, Canada, for example, will be listed after organizations in Alaska, United States. The names of the organizations presented in the search results are grouped under headings according to the states and provinces in which they are located. Visually impaired users of screen readers should note that the state and province headings are active links and will therefore be read by the screen reader as one tabs through the results page. Users who have the option of listing all the links on the page may select a state or province name to go directly to listings in that state or province.

When results are displayed, organizations are listed alphabetically, along with their cities, states, and zip codes below their names. Following the organization name link will display the full profile of the organization, which includes full contact information and a detailed description of the services the organization offers.

Two additional options are offered for viewing search results. These are "Show All Addresses"

and "Show All Providers' Information." The links to these options appear after the last entry in the results. "Show All Addresses" will display organizations with their full street and web site addresses rather than just their cities, states, and zip codes. "Show All Providers Information" will display full profiles of all the organizations that match the search criteria.

A more detailed explanation of how to use the online *Directory* is provided at www.afb.org/dirhowto.asp.

KEEPING THE DIRECTORY CURRENT

The *AFB Directory of Services* database is continuously updated and is based on information provided by organizations themselves through AFB's *Directory* Online Center. However, readers should keep in mind that no directory can ever be perfectly up to date, as organizations continually move, change names, or cease to function, and information of that nature typically is not immediately shared. Many organizations, such as state ophthalmological societies and other membership organizations, change their addresses and telephone numbers regularly as the head of the organization or president changes. In such cases, attempts to find the service can be made by following a forwarding telephone number or address at the old listing; contacting a national organization affiliated with the local service; or checking with local directory assistance or on the Internet. As the pace of change accelerates in today's society, web site addresses, e-mail addresses, and telephone area codes are just some of the data subject to frequent alteration.

In compiling the descriptions in this *Directory*, AFB has relied on organizations and practitioners engaged in the work of providing services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Because of the complexity of information today and its constantly shifting nature, AFB welcomes suggestions about corrections, deletions, and new listings for the *Directory*, from both suppliers and users of the data. Such information should be sent in writing to AFB Press, American Foundation for the Blind, 11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300, New York, NY 10001, or to afbdirectory@afb.net.

An Overview of Services

A tremendous variety of services exists that can meet the needs of people living in the United States or Canada who are blind or have some degree of visual impairment. Largely as a result of the way in which they have developed and are funded, however, these varied programs are not organized into unified national systems. Services are for the most part driven by federal legislation (in the United States) or provincial legislation (in Canada) and overseen by different government agencies; and a large portion of services themselves are actually provided by private agencies. In addition, different systems provide services to children, adults, and older persons, and coordination of services is frequently lacking. In general, the population of people with visual impairments is so diverse and their needs so varied that there is no one type of organization that meets all their needs. Thus, there are numerous national, state or provincial, and local organizations that offer assistance to people who are blind or visually impaired, but there is no one simple pathway to find all the services an individual might require. The *AFB Directory of Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons in the United States and Canada*, therefore, attempts to capture the breadth of existing services and organize them in a way that allows people to identify and locate what they need.

This discussion gives a brief overview of how services for persons with visual impairments are structured in the United States and Canada. For a detailed description of the types of organizations and services covered in this *Directory*, as well as an explanation of how to find particular organizations or services, see "**How to Use This Directory.**" For more information about the legislation that

governs services for people who are blind or visually impaired, see "**A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs.**"

WHAT ARE BLINDNESS AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENT?

There are many different definitions of the terms *blind* and *visually impaired* that are used for different purposes. Essentially, the word *blind* refers to the absence of vision or to the ability to determine only the existence (not the source) of light (known as light perception.) A visual impairment is any vision problem that is severe enough to affect an individual's ability to carry out the tasks of everyday living. In a broad sense, the term visual impairment usually includes blindness.

People are said to have *low vision* if they have a severe visual impairment even after the best possible correction (with eyeglasses, contact lenses, or surgery) but still have some usable vision. People with low vision are often able to learn to use their vision effectively—that is, increase their visual functioning—through instruction from professionals from the field of blindness and visual impairment, practice in adaptive techniques, and the use of optical devices such as magnifiers or telescopes. They can benefit from special low vision services that evaluate their vision, prescribe low vision devices, and train them in the use of devices and techniques to improve visual functioning.

To establish blindness for legal purposes, such as qualifying for government-funded disability or adult rehabilitation services, the term *legal blindness* is sometimes used. Legal blindness is not the same as total blindness. It refers to a visual acuity (the clarity of vision) that has been measured to

be 20/200 or less in the better eye with corrective lenses (eyeglasses or contact lenses), or a visual field of less than 20 degrees. (A fully sighted person has a visual acuity of 20/20 with or without corrective lenses and a visual field of 120 to 180 degrees. An acuity of 20/200 means that the individual sees at a distance of 200 feet what the fully sighted person sees at 20 feet.) Definitions of legal blindness are based on clinical and not functional measurements; that is, they do not consider individuals' ability to use their vision.

Organizations that serve visually impaired people may use these or other terms—such as *visually handicapped* or *partially sighted*—in their name. Regardless of the terms they use, most organizations serve people with the full range of visual impairment unless particular eligibility requirements are specified.

PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The population of individuals who have a visual impairment or are blind is as diverse as the population of the United States and Canada. Visually impaired infants, children, youths, and working age and older adults live in remote rural areas, towns, suburbs, and cities and represent all nationalities, ethnicities, cultures, and religious beliefs. In addition, each person's response to blindness or a severe visual impairment is unique, and therefore individual needs for services are extremely varied as well.

People who are blind or visually impaired can live productive and independent lives. With the opportunity to learn techniques to adapt to visual impairment and the assistance of adaptive equipment and products, they go to school, attend college, participate in all types of activities, hold all types of jobs, raise families, and enjoy sports and other recreational activities. In addition to information about organizations that provide various services and instruction in adaptive techniques, this *Directory* also provides listings of manufacturers and publishers that produce adapted materials and products that visually impaired people can use.

Estimates vary, but approximately 10 million people who are blind or visually impaired live in

the United States, and over half of them are elderly. (The population of visually impaired individuals in Canada is estimated to be smaller.) Elderly people are the fastest growing population of individuals with severe visual impairments. Many individuals who are blind or have low vision also have additional disabilities and will therefore require services from specialists, agencies, and organizations other than those addressing visual needs.

WHERE TO BEGIN

Given the diversity of agencies and organizations that exist, it is useful to begin looking for information about blindness and visual impairment by consulting national organizations in the field of blindness—regardless of whether one is looking for services for an individual who is experiencing vision-related difficulties, professional resources, or general facts about visual impairment. These organizations are knowledgeable about the different types of services that exist and how to find them. They also can provide important information about the services that people are entitled to by law, as well as the requirements for those services. For more information about these organizations, see "**National Organizations**" for both the United States and Canada.

When looking for services and assistance, it is helpful to have an understanding of the different types of programs that are generally offered to people with visual impairments, the government agencies that oversee them, and the kinds of organizations that offer them. Services are organized differently in the United States and Canada, so they will be described separately.

SERVICES IN THE UNITED STATES

Government Policy

The United States government made a clear national commitment to the elimination of discrimination against people with disabilities in 1990 with the passage of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (P.L. 101-336). The ADA prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in virtually every segment of society, including employment, state and local govern-

ment services, transportation, and public accommodations. The existence of the ADA influences many aspects of daily life for people with disabilities, and services and information related to government policy and regulations can be obtained from the agencies listed in the **"Federal Agencies"** section of the *Directory*. For more information about this and other federal legislation, see **"A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs."**

In the United States, each state or territory has several "lead agencies," government agencies that oversee certain services related to aging, early intervention, education, instructional materials, and rehabilitation. These are identified at the beginning of each state's listings in the *Directory* as **"Key State Agencies and Resources."** It may be helpful in understanding and locating services to break them down into two major categories, those for children (which includes infants from birth to age 3; preschoolers, ages 3 to 5; and school-age children and adolescents, ages 5 to 21), and those for adults. In addition, however, some services, such as low vision services, are required by all individuals in all age groups and may be offered in a variety of systems.

Services for Children

A variety of educational services for children and infants who are blind or visually impaired are guaranteed as a right by federal legislation in the United States, in particular the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L. 108-442, formerly P.L. 105-17 as amended (see **"A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs"**). This act establishes the right to a "free, appropriate, public education," that is, an education appropriate to the needs of the individual child, for all children from birth to age 21, regardless of disability. In addition, this education must be provided in the "least-restrictive environment" appropriate for the child—that is, in the same settings as children who do not have disabilities to the extent possible—and families must be involved in the planning and implementation of services for their children. An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is required for each child eligible for services, as is family participation as part of the child's educational team. Educational services are also provided under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

of 1973; these include classroom accommodations or adaptations such as the provision of materials in large print or other accessible formats.

Educational services are overseen by the U.S. Department of Education, but they are administered at the state level and vary considerably from state to state. To learn about the services that are available for a child and where they are, start with the state department of education, division for special education (listed under **"Key State Agencies and Resources"** for each state) and ask for the state vision consultant or the person in charge of services for children who are blind or visually impaired. Information is also available from local public school districts, multischool districts or county special education consortia (such as intermediate units or boards of cooperative education services), and state or private schools for children who are blind or visually impaired.

Early Intervention Services. Children who are born blind or develop severe visual impairments before the age of 3 need special attention to their early development. They need to learn about the world just as other children do, but often through channels other than or in addition to vision. Each state is required by IDEA legislation to provide early intervention services for infants from birth to age 3 with disabilities or who are at risk of developmental delays. The services provided typically include assessment of the child's condition and needs, developmental enrichment, coordination of health and social services, and an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for both the child and the family, outlining the services to be provided. Services to infants and toddlers are provided mainly in the home by itinerant (traveling) professionals, although some are offered in organizations or centers, where a variety of special education and related services are available in the same place.

The supervising agency for early intervention services is listed under **"Key State Agencies and Resources"** for each state. These lead agencies may be housed in state departments of education, health, human services, or rehabilitation, although some are in agencies outside the state system.

These agencies usually provide referrals to local programs. The local school district may be an additional direct source of information. It is also important to contact agencies and organizations for people who are blind or visually impaired (either national or local) and special schools for blind students, which may have more information about early intervention and nursery and preschool programs that have specific experience with children who are blind or visually impaired.

Many blind and visually impaired toddlers and children ages 3 to 5 attend regular day care, nursery, and preschool programs and receive specialized services from visiting, or itinerant, professionals such as an early childhood specialist and a certified teacher of children who are visually impaired. There are also preschool and early childhood programs that specialize in blindness and visual impairment.

Agencies that provide services for young children who are blind or visually impaired also provide assistance to the families. For example, they may have counseling or support groups and social work services in addition to providing information about adapted communication techniques and developmental stimulation.

Educational Services. As noted earlier, to obtain information about educational services for children of preschool and school age, families can begin by contacting the office of the state's Department of Education that oversees education for children with disabilities. The state rehabilitation agency for blind persons can also be contacted; both these agencies are listed under "**Key State Agencies and Resources**" for each state. In addition, the agencies providing the services at the local level, including public school districts, multischool districts, and state or private schools for children who are blind, are important sources of information.

The vast majority of students who are blind or visually impaired in the United States and Canada attend their local community public schools. Most attend regular classes and receive separate instruction from a teacher specializing in the education of children who are blind or visually impaired and the additional skills unique to blind-

ness or visual impairment that they need to learn. These skills may include reading and writing in braille, travel skills (known as orientation and mobility techniques, or O&M), and optimal use of low vision. Children may be taught by an itinerant teacher who travels to different students at different schools within the school district or neighboring districts, or a teacher of visually impaired children may be assigned to a resource room at a given school, where he or she meets with several students who are visually impaired during different periods of the day.

Some children may attend a special school for children who are blind or visually impaired, either as day students or residential students. Some programs are geared toward students with single or mild multiple disabilities and emphasize academic programs and an expanded curriculum. Others may focus on functional lifelong learning programs for children with severe multiple disabilities, while still others provide a full spectrum of educational opportunities. It is important for a family to make inquiries about the full continuum of educational services as well as all the possible educational settings and to find out what types of services are offered and which children are served at each site before deciding on what is best for their child.

In addition to the legal requirements of IDEA already noted, this legislation requires that an IEP be written for all students with disabilities in the educational system. This plan is developed by an educational team, including teachers, special educators, a teacher of students who are visually impaired, an O&M specialist and other professionals as appropriate, family members, and the student him- or herself, if appropriate. This team assesses the student's abilities, strengths, and needs; determines the most appropriate educational placement; sets educational goals and objectives for the student; and specifies the special educational and related services that he or she will receive.

Among the services to be included in the IEP are supplementary aids and services that enable the student to make the best use of his or her education. For example, a student may need to have books transcribed into braille, or a student with low vision may need a low vision device such as a

magnifier or a closed-circuit television (CCTV) to complete his or her schoolwork. Generally speaking, the teacher of visually impaired students will make arrangements for these services and alert the family to what is needed. However, the *Directory* also includes resources for obtaining materials or services that the family might need, such as books in formats other than print (in braille or large print or on audiotape), low vision services and devices, and special library services.

Transition Services. IDEA requires that, beginning at age 14, students receive so-called transition services to prepare them for life after high school. The student's IEP will incorporate goals and activities to begin readying the student for this transition and the services that will be needed, including preparation for independent living, enrollment in a vocational program or college, career and vocational planning, and the like. Connections also need to be made to services that students may be eligible for after school and as adults. For example, rehabilitation services (described in the next section) may provide financial and other assistance while a young person attends college or trade school, looks for work, and gets established in a new job.

Services for Adults

Rehabilitation Services. Vision rehabilitation services are generally provided to adults who have recently lost vision and are adjusting to blindness or visual impairment or are congenitally blind and may be experiencing difficulty finding work. Rehabilitation also serves young adults who are making the transition from school to adulthood and older people who are losing vision and need independent living services. For the most part, rehabilitation services are ultimately directed toward improving an individual's opportunities for employment (vocational rehabilitation), with the exception of independent living programs, which provide training in daily living skills for people, such as older or medically fragile individuals, who may not have employment as a goal.

In the United States, the authority for training and finding employment for people with mental, physical, and sensory disabilities is provided by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (see "**A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs**"), which must be reauthorized by Congress every five years. Rehabilitation services for people with disabilities are provided jointly by the federal and state governments, and the way in which they are delivered varies from state to state. In approximately half the states, services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired are offered through a separate state vocational rehabilitation agency for blind persons—such as a division of vocational services or a state commission for the blind and visually impaired. Individuals have to meet eligibility requirements to qualify for state rehabilitation services—for example, they may need to be legally blind and demonstrate that their disability is an impediment to finding employment to receive vision rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation services may include vocational evaluation, vocational skills or postsecondary academic skills training, and work site evaluation and modifications; medical, psychiatric, psychological, and social services; comprehensive assessment; provision of assistive aids and devices; physical and occupational therapy; O&M services (training in how to move and travel safely and independently); rehabilitation teaching in daily living skills such as personal and household management and communication methods; computer training and the provision of assistive technology (methods of accessing the environment and printed information using computers); health and low vision services; supported employment services; and vocational training and placement.

Rehabilitation agencies may provide services in clients' homes, at a facility in the community, or at a residential rehabilitation center. In some states, assisted living facilities provide semi-independent living arrangements for blind or visually impaired individuals. In some places, facility-based employment is available for individuals who choose to work outside a competitive environment or as a transitional placement to prepare for community-based jobs.

A good place to start looking for rehabilitation services is the state's general rehabilitation

agency or its special rehabilitation agency for people who are blind or visually impaired. These are listed under **"Key State Agencies and Resources"** for each state. The state rehabilitation agency provides the services it identifies as necessary for an individual, either directly or by contract with other agencies and service providers. There is generally a network of local offices to contact for assistance.

In addition to state-sponsored services, there are hundreds of private, nonprofit agencies for blind people in the United States. Services specifically directed to the needs of individuals with visual impairments may vary significantly among agencies.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) also provides eye health care services and rehabilitation training services to qualified veterans. Each state has at least one Visual Impairment Service Team (VIST), and there are rehabilitation centers specifically for veterans who are blind or visually impaired in Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Puerto Rico, Texas, and Washington.

Aging Services. As mentioned earlier, over half of the population of people who are blind or visually impaired are elderly, and their numbers increase every year. For several reasons, the services needed by adults in this age group tend to differ from those provided to other individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Many elderly people begin to lose vision for the first time as they age as a result of eye conditions that are most common in older persons, such as glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and cataracts (see **"A Glossary of Common Terms"**). At the same time that they need to adjust to vision loss, elderly people are often coping with other physical and psychological changes that occur during the later years of life. However, vision rehabilitation services are not generally well integrated with other services provided for older people, so the *Directory* provides contact information for general aging services as well. Each state's lead agency for aging services is listed under

"Key State Agencies and Resources" for each state. These State Units on Aging were created by the 1965 Older Americans Act to coordinate services for older people in each state, although they go by a variety of designations, including Department, Division, or Commission on Aging. The State Unit can refer callers to the nearest Area Agency on Aging, regional agencies that can connect them with specific services in their local area.

Vision rehabilitation services for older people are provided by the state rehabilitation agency in most cases, typically under a separate program, known as Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind. Directed specifically at people who are over age 55, the Independent Living Program is mandated by Title VII, Chapter 2, of the Rehabilitation Act. This program provides services similar to those in traditional rehabilitation programs, but focuses on training for living independently, not on job skills. Services include training in daily living skills, O&M, low vision services, provision of adaptive devices, counseling, and efforts to keep the individual integrated in the community. The lead agency for the Independent Living Program is also listed under **"Key State Agencies and Resources"** for each state. In addition to the state vocational rehabilitation system, however, it is important to contact national vision organizations and other local rehabilitation agencies for information about the full range of services for older people who are experiencing vision loss.

Other Services

Low Vision Services. As noted earlier, individuals are said to have low vision when they are severely visually impaired, even with conventional eyeglasses or contact lenses, but are able to use vision at least some of the time for some everyday activities. Low vision services assist these individuals, regardless of age, to make the best use of their vision, with or without the assistance of special optical devices. These services include a low vision evaluation, a specialized examination to assess the abilities and needs of an individual with low vision; prescription of low vision devices,

such as magnifiers or telescopes and training in their use; and training in adaptive techniques to make optimal use of vision.

Ophthalmologists and optometrists typically do not provide low vision services unless they are specially trained in that area and may not always refer patients with low vision for low vision services. It is crucial, therefore, that individuals who may have low vision, their families, and their service providers be aware of such services and be assertive in finding out where to obtain them.

Low vision services may be located in agencies of and for blind or visually impaired people, hospitals, VA facilities, private rehabilitation agencies, university settings, and private ophthalmological and optometric clinics or practices. In addition to the listings of low vision services in this *Directory*, referrals may be obtained from national blindness organizations, state rehabilitation services, agencies or professionals that provide other visual impairment services, state or national ophthalmological and optometric associations, and nearby universities that train professionals in the field of blindness and visual impairment.

Additional Services and Products. There are many other forms of assistance, as well as products and services, that people who are blind or visually impaired may wish to make use of on their own. Although they are likely to receive information about these services through the educational or rehabilitative systems, the following list summarizes the range of services available. This includes:

- dog guide schools that train people who are blind or visually impaired to use a dog guide for independent travel
- libraries that provide special services for disabled readers, including the U.S. Library of Congress National Library Service libraries (local libraries may also provide books in large print and audio formats)
- radio reading services that provide special broadcasts of news and information
- alternate media providers that make books and other printed matter available in forms that are accessible to visually impaired people, such as braille, large print, and

audiotape, as well as audio- or videodescribed versions of television shows, films, and other performances

- computer training in assistive technology that allows people who cannot read print to access information electronically.
- recreational opportunities
- products that are specially adapted for use by people who are blind or visually impaired

These products and services are further described in "**How to Use This Directory**," and sources of these products and services are listed in this *Directory*.

SERVICES IN CANADA

As in the United States, the Canadian government has expressed a strong commitment to the rights of its citizens who have disabilities. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms contained within the Canadian constitution guarantees people with disabilities equality and equal protection under law, and the Canadian Human Rights Act prohibits discrimination based on disability. The Employment Equity Act was passed in 1986, and the Omnibus Bill of 1992 guarantees a large number of specific rights (see "**A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs**"). As in the United States, government directives are administered by different departments, such as Transport Canada, the Library and Archives Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada, Veterans Affairs Canada, and so forth. (See the listings for "**Federal Agencies**" in Canada.)

Although there is a range of disability programs at the federal level, services to people who are blind or visually impaired in Canada are usually provided either by provincial governments or private agencies. By and large, the categories of services offered are similar to those described for the United States (for example, education or rehabilitation) although the structure is different.

Education for children with disabilities is under the direction of the provincial department or ministry of education (see listings in the *Directory* for each province or territory). Educational services are usually provided by the local school board. For rehabilitation and other noneduca-

tional services, the provincial department that is responsible for services to people with disabilities is identified in the *Directory*. This agency may be a department of social, community, or family services or a health department.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) is the country's largest private national organization and has a network of divisions and district offices throughout Canada. It serves as an information resource as well as a direct service provider, and thus is a good place to begin gathering information on any type of service. CNIB focuses on seven core services: counseling and referral, rehabilitation teaching, library, O&M

training, sight enhancement (vision rehabilitation), technical aids, and career development and employment.

This summary can provide only a brief overview of the complex array of services, information, products, and assistance available to people who are blind or visually impaired. Moreover, legislation and interpretations of laws and regulations are always subject to change. For this reason, readers are urged to contact the American Foundation for the Blind and other national blindness organizations for the most up-to-date information about the field of blindness and services for people who are visually impaired.

A Glossary of Common Terms

access technology *See* Assistive technology.

accessible format *See* Alternate media.

activities of daily living (ADL) The routine activities, such as eating and grooming, that an individual must be able to perform in order to live independently. Also known as daily living skills.

adapted materials or devices Products that have been modified in some manner to assist people who are blind or visually impaired in their use, such as large-print or brailled textbooks or talking calculators.

adaptive technique A technique or method that helps a visually impaired individual perform various activities, like writing or counting money.

adaptive technology *See* Assistive technology.

ADL *See* Activities of daily living.

alternate media (*also* alternative media) Formats other than regular print for the presentation of information that can be used by people who are blind or visually impaired, such as braille, large print, or audio recording.

Area Agency on Aging A regional agency established by the Older Americans Act of 1965 to coordinate services to older individuals in a particular area.

assisted living facilities Independent living arrangements that provide certain services on the premises so that older people or individuals with disabilities are able to live on their own.

assistive technology Computer hardware and software and other equipment and methods used to make the environment and printed information accessible to people with visual impairments.

audiobook A book read aloud and recorded on cassette or other format. *See also* Talking Book.

audiodescription Description and explanation of visual events in a performance—such as a film, television program, or play—to present them to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. *See also* Videodescription.

audiology The profession dealing with hearing impairment.

blindness A severe visual impairment in which an individual has no vision at all or can only perceive light; lack of functional vision.

braille A tactile system for reading and writing, based on a cell-like structure made up of six raised dots used in various arrangements to represent printed letters.

braille access system Computer hardware or software that uses braille for input and/or output.

case management A process aimed at coordinating services for an individual and overseeing his or her progress in those services.

CCTV *See* Closed-circuit television.

center-based services Services provided at an agency, rather than in an individual's home or community.

Child Find A process mandated by federal legislation (*see* Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) to identify children with disabilities or at risk of developmental delays and provide them with early assistance and services.

closed-circuit television (CCTV) A device, used primarily as a reading aid for visually impaired persons, that electronically magnifies printed materials and projects the enlarged image on a video monitor. Also known as video magnifiers.

daily living skills Skills (such as methods for personal grooming, household management, and communication) that individuals need to be able to perform tasks involved in living independently. Also known as activities of daily living (ADL).

deaf-blindness Losses of both hearing and vision, in varying degrees, severe enough to interfere with everyday functioning.

developmental delay Delay of an individual, particularly an infant or toddler, in progressing toward or achieving the typical milestones or rates of growth in one or more of the areas of cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development, so that he or she functions at a level below his or her chronological age.

direct service Services provided by a professional directly to an individual, as opposed to the provision of information and referral of the individual elsewhere for services or assistance.

dog guide A dog trained to assist its owner to travel safely.

early intervention Services provided to an infant and his or her family to enhance the infant's development, including assessment of the child's condition and needs, developmental enrichment, and coordination of health and social services. Under federal legislation (*see* Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), states are mandated to provide free early childhood services for children from birth to age 3 who have a disability or are at risk of developmental delay and their families.

electronic travel aid *See* Mobility aid, electronic.

emboss To print material in raised form; specifically, to print in braille.

functional vision A degree of vision sufficient to be of use in performing a given task, such as reading or sewing.

functional vision assessment An assessment of an individual's usable vision done by observing the person perform a variety of tasks in various environments, separate from a clinical eye examination.

gesticulation Nonverbal communication skills; making gestures that mimic the ordinary gestures of others and using gestures to help express and emphasize the meaning of verbal or sign language.

home-based services Services provided in an individual's home, rather than in an agency or the community.

IDEA *See* Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

IEP *See* Individualized Education Program.

IFSP *See* Individualized Family Service Plan.

inclusion The practice of educating students with disabilities in regular education classrooms with their nondisabled peers. *See also* Mainstreaming.

Independent Living Program A program administered by the U.S. Rehabilitation Services Administration that offers rehabilitation services (*see* Rehabilitation) to eligible clients who are not candidates for specific services focusing on helping people find and maintain a job, such as some persons who have multiple disabilities or elderly persons who are visually impaired.

independent living services Training in skills used in everyday life with the goal of helping an individual to live on his or her own.

Individualized Education Program (IEP) A written plan of instruction required by federal legislation (*see* Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), outlining what a child with disabilities needs to be taught and what services need to be provided, which is completed on a regular basis by an educational team.

Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) A plan required by federal legislation (*see* Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) to coordinate early intervention services for an infant or toddler with a disability and his or her family.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L. 105-17 Federal legislation that mandates a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment possible for all eligible children with disabilities in the United States.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 2004 amendments to IDEA.

in-service training Training, usually in the form of classes or workshops, given to workers as part of their employment.

instructional materials center (*also* Instructional resource center) Resource centers that provide adapted materials, such as braille textbooks, large-print books, and texts on tape, for visually impaired students within a state.

itinerant teacher A teacher who moves from school to school, usually on a daily basis, to provide specialized instruction and support to students with special needs who are attending regular schools in their communities.

large print (*also* large type) Print that is larger (usually 14 to 18 points) than that commonly found in magazines, newspapers, and books (6 to 12 points).

learning disability A disorder that interferes with the ability to understand or use spoken or written language and may hinder learning because of an impaired ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematical calculations.

legal blindness A definition of blindness that is frequently used to determine a visually impaired individual's eligibility for governmental or various other services; a visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with corrective lenses or a visual field (peripheral vision) of less than 20 degrees.

listening skills The ability to absorb information aurally, especially as developed by special training.

low vision A condition in which an individual is severely visually impaired but is able to use vision at least some of the time for some everyday activities, often including reading print.

low vision devices (*also* low vision aids) Various optical and nonoptical devices, such as magnifiers or telescopes, used to improve the ability of persons with visual impairments to use their vision.

low vision evaluation or examination A specialized clinical examination to assess the visual abilities and needs of an individual with low vision.

low vision specialist An ophthalmologist or optometrist who is specially trained in examining individuals with low vision and prescribing low vision devices.

low vision therapist A professional who performs functional vision assessments following

clinical low vision examinations and implements the recommendations of the low vision rehabilitation team. The low vision therapist may provide instruction in the use of functional vision as well as in the use of low vision devices.

magnifier A low vision device used for short-term near-vision tasks that can increase the size of a visual image on the retina.

mainstreaming The practice of placing students with disabilities in regular education classrooms for part or all of the school day.

mobility aid, electronic (*also* electronic travel aid) A device that gives off audible signals when objects are nearby in the environment, for use by individuals with visual impairments to move about or travel safely.

multiply disabled Having more than one disability.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) A part of the U.S. Library of Congress that loans free reading materials on tape, on disk, or in braille through a network of libraries throughout the country to individuals who are unable to read regular print books because of a visual or physical disability.

Nemeth code A braille code system used in science and mathematics.

nonoptical devices or aids Low vision devices that do not involve optics, such as high-intensity lamps or bold-lined paper.

occupational therapist A professional who uses specific activities to improve an individual's physical, social, psychological, or intellectual development, focusing on the development of fine motor skills and perceptual abilities.

OCR *See* Optical character recognition.

ophthalmologist A physician who specializes in diseases and surgery of the eye.

optical character recognition system (OCR) A system that scans printed text and converts it into an electronic format that can be stored in a computer text file and then further converted into forms such as speech or braille.

optician A professional who prescribes and grinds corrective lenses and optical instruments.

optometrist A nonmedical professional trained to evaluate and measure vision problems, especially those resulting from refractive errors, and to prescribe corrective lenses.

orientation and mobility The field dealing with systematic techniques that individuals who are blind or visually impaired can use to orient themselves to their environment and move and travel safely and independently.

peer counseling (*also* telephone reading service) One-to-one or group support from a person or people who have similar characteristics or problems.

phone-in newspaper A service that enables users to listen to articles of their choice read over the telephone from selected newspapers.

physical therapist A professional who focuses on the development, correction, and prevention of motor problems (problems in muscular movement).

radio reading service A system that broadcasts information, such as newspaper articles, books, and consumer information, to people with visual, physical, and reading disabilities, usually operating on unused radio frequencies and requiring a special receiver.

reading machine A computer-based device that scans printed text and converts it into synthetic speech.

recorded book or magazine An audiotaped version of written material. *See* Talking Book.

rehabilitation The process of bringing or restoring an individual to a normal or optimum state of health and constructive activity through treatment and therapy; specifically, the process of adjusting to vision loss and learning how to adapt or perform in new ways previously known skills.

rehabilitation counselor A rehabilitation professional who serves as coordinator or case manager in a public or private rehabilitation agency for an individual who is visually impaired and who provides counseling and career guidance.

rehabilitation teacher A professional who teaches people with visual impairments to use adaptive skills and equipment to perform the various tasks of everyday life.

sheltered workshop (*also* facility-based employment) A business that provides jobs for individuals with a disability who may need special assistance to be able to work.

screen-magnification system A computer system that electronically enlarges the characters displayed on the computer monitor.

screen reader A computer program that translates print characters on the computer screen into their sound equivalents as part of a speech output system. These sounds are then "spoken" as words by the speech synthesizer component of the system.

sensory training Instruction that helps a person who is blind or visually impaired develop his or her other sensory abilities to be aware of the environment.

sensory integration training Instruction often provided under the supervision of an occupational therapist that helps an individual organize and integrate or process the sensations received by seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, or other senses.

speech output system A computer-based system that converts text displayed as print into simulated speech.

speech synthesizer Part of a speech output system that provides the spoken equivalent of the print text displayed on the computer monitor.

speech therapist A professional in the area of communication techniques and speech and language pathology who teaches people to improve their spoken communication.

State Unit on Aging An agency established in each state under the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide referrals for older people to local agencies—such as senior centers, home care agencies, geriatric medical practices, assisted living facilities, social work agencies, and the like—as well as to local Area Agencies on Aging.

Talking Book A book or other reading material read aloud and recorded for a blind or visually impaired listener to play back, usually on specially designed equipment, which may be in disk or cassette tape format; an audiobook recorded for listeners who are print disabled.

Talking Book machine A specialized device for playing Talking Books.

Teacher of students who are blind or visually impaired A certified or credentialed professional trained to teach blind and visually impaired children in both academic areas and adaptive skills.

telescope A lens system that makes small objects appear closer and larger.

transition services Assistance, instruction, and planning for an individual who is making a change to a different type of environment and from one system of services to another. Transitional services are required by federal legislation (*see* Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) for toddlers who are moving from early intervention services to preschool or other appropriate services and for young adults who are moving from school to community living and employment or from secondary school to higher education.

VA Veterans Affairs, U.S. Department of (formerly the U.S. Veterans Administration)

vending stand training Training to operate a vending stand as part of the Vending Facility Program for Persons Who Are Blind, instituted by the Randolph-Sheppard Act, which gives persons who are blind priority in running vending facilities on federal property as a way to support themselves.

videodescription Description and explanation of visual events in a recorded program—such as a television program or videotaped film—usually recorded as part of the program for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. *See also* Audio-description

video magnifier A computer-based device for magnifying images and projecting them on a computer screen. *See also* Closed-circuit television.

visual acuity The sharpness or clearness of vision.

visual field The area that is visible to a person looking straight ahead without shifting his or her gaze.

visual impairment Any degree of vision loss, including total blindness, that affects an individual's ability to perform everyday activities.

vocational rehabilitation The process of preparing an individual for employment by means of training, counseling, and other services.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS DIRECTORY

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

ADL activities of daily living

AER Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired

AFB American Foundation for the Blind

AT assistive technology

CCTV closed-circuit television

CMV cytomegalovirus

HIV/AIDS human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome

GED general equivalency diploma

IDEA Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

IEP individualized education program

IFSP individualized family service plan

K Kindergarten

LEA local education agency

OCR optical character recognition

O.D. doctor of optometry

O&M orientation and mobility

TDD telecommunication device for deaf and hearing impaired persons

TTY teletype for deaf and hearing impaired persons

VA Veterans Affairs, U.S. Department of (formerly the U.S. Veterans Administration)

A Summary of Major Federal Disability Programs

Both the United States and Canada have undertaken important initiatives to guarantee the rights of people who are blind or visually impaired or have other disabilities. In the United States, the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted and signed into law in 1990, prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, state and local government services, public accommodations and commercial facilities, and transportation. Chief among additional laws relating to the rights of and supports for people who are blind or visually impaired are the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Significant legal protections and services are also provided through the Telecommunications Amendments of 1996, the Air Carrier Access Act, and the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, including the Help America Vote Act.

In addition, health and income support for eligible persons who are blind or visually impaired is provided through Medicare, Medicaid, and the Social Security Act's Disability Insurance Income and Supplemental Security Income programs. Specific information on these health and income security programs can be found at www.disability.gov, the access portal to the information on all federal programs for persons with disabilities.

In Canada, federal, provincial, and territorial governments implement a system of rights, benefits, and services for people with mental and physical disabilities including blindness. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms provides protection against discrimination based on physical and mental disability. Through this legislation and through a framework titled In Unison:

A Canadian Approach to Disability Issues, produced as a collaborative effort by these entities, provincial and territorial governments work to ensure current rights and future reform.

The following summary provides a broad outline of rights and services under these laws and indicates sources for further information.

KEY U.S. PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION

Americans with Disabilities Act

The landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (P.L. 101-336) of 1990 provides a clear national mandate for the elimination of discrimination on the basis of disability in employment (Title I), state and local government (Title II), public transportation (Title II), public accommodations (Title III), and telecommunications relay services for individuals with hearing impairments and speech impairments (Title IV).

The ADA does not specifically list all the impairments that are covered by its provisions. An individual with a disability is defined by the ADA as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more life activities, a person who has a history or record of such impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having an impairment. In brief, the law stipulates that people who are blind or visually impaired must have the same fair chance for consideration for employment as any other applicant at a workplace covered by the act, provided that they can perform the essential functions of the job, with or without a reasonable accommodation. The ADA also mandates that a fair chance be given to employees for consideration for promotion and

training by the employer once they are employed. State and local governments cannot, on the basis of a person's disability, exclude individuals from participation in government services or programs. In places of public accommodation such as a motel, restaurant, movie theater, or doctor's office, provision must be made for a means of effective communication with and for recipient of services for the customer who is disabled. (*Of Consuming Interest: A Guide to Titles II and III of the ADA for People with Vision Loss*, prepared by the Governmental Relations Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, and available at www.afb.org, provides a comprehensive guide to the services required under these titles for people who are blind or visually impaired.)

For additional information about the ADA, such as specific rights and remedies, assistance in filing claims, or meeting requirements under ADA, contact the following agencies (see full listings under "Federal Agencies" in the United States):

Employment (Title I)

- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
- Job Accommodation Network of the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment and Policy (for information on how to accommodate a person with a specific disability)

State and Local Government Activities (Title II)

- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

Public Transportation (Title II)

- U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Office of Civil Rights

Public Accommodations (Title III)

- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

Telecommunications Relay Services (Title IV)

- Federal Communications Commission: Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office

In addition, the web area found at www.disabilityinfo.gov provides a gateway to the federal government's disability-related information and resources. This interagency web portal was created to provide a gateway to comprehensive listings of assistance including the areas of employment, education, housing, transportation, health, income support, technology, independent living, and civil rights. Specific program information is available, along with information on eligibility qualifications and applications.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The authority for training and finding employment for people with mental, physical, and sensory disabilities is provided by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 105-220). The Rehabilitation Act is also linked to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-220). This link is designed to afford individuals with access to the workforce one-stop employment and training system for persons with disabilities. The basic employment and training services covered under the Rehabilitation Act are provided through a state-federal partnership with agencies designated by each state to provide these services.

In many states, services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired are offered through a separate state vocational rehabilitation agency for persons who are blind or visually impaired. In other states, services are provided through a general vocational rehabilitation agency. Regardless of the nature of the designated agency, the Rehabilitation Act is the only national program for individuals other than veterans program that provides distinct prevocational training like orientation and mobility (O&M) and training in appropriate information access like the use of braille and assistive technology. Also unique to the Rehabilitation Act is the Title VII, Chapter 2, Independent Living for Older Individuals Who Are Blind program. In addition, the act provides the authority for long-term training programs for rehabilitation teachers and O&M instructors who provide independent living and mobility skills to persons who are blind or visually impaired.

One of the most significant recent additions to the authorities of the Rehabilitation Act is Section 508, which establishes requirements for electronic information technology developed, procured, or used by the federal government. This section requires federal electronic and information technology to be accessible to people with disabilities who are federal employees and members of the public seeking federal services. Section 508 requirements also apply to the U.S. Postal Service. Further specific information regarding Section 508 may be found at <http://www.section508.gov>. Information on filing complaints may be obtained from each federal department or agency.

Key elements of the Rehabilitation Act undergird the civil rights of individuals with disabilities in programs conducted by federal agencies, in programs receiving federal financial assistance, in federal employment, and in the employment practices of federal contractors. Section 501 requires affirmative action and nondiscrimination in employment by federal agencies of the executive branch. Specific information and instructions on how to file complaints may be obtained through each agency's Equal Employment Opportunity Office. In addition, Section 503 requires affirmative action and prohibits employment discrimination by federal government contractors and subcontractors with contracts of more than \$10,000. Specific information on Section 503 may be found at www.dol.gov/dol/compliance/comp-rehab.htm.

Section 504 provides that "no qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall be excluded from or denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that either receives federal financial assistance or is conducted by any Executive agency or the U.S. Postal Service." Each federal agency has its own set of Section 504 regulations. Among the requirements common to these regulations are those governing effective communication with people who have hearing or visual disabilities. Each agency enforces its own regulations. Section 504 may be enforced through private lawsuits. It is not necessary to file a complaint with a federal agency before going to court.

Information on how to file complaints with the appropriate agency may be obtained from:

- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (P.L.108-442) requires public schools to make available to all eligible children with disabilities a free and appropriate education in the least-restrictive environment appropriate to their individual needs. IDEA provides an important cornerstone for the exercise of this right through the requirement of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for each child deemed to be eligible, which provides an accountable planning and documentation process outlining the specific special education and related services needs of the student.

In brief, IDEA authorizes a state formula grant program for the federal share of special education funding, and includes provisions regarding eligibility for students, evaluations, and procedural safeguards. It also authorizes a preschool grants program, early intervention programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities along with discretionary programs for program improvement, research, personnel preparation, parent training and information centers, technical assistance, technology development, and transition planning requirements for students moving from education into rehabilitation programs.

IDEA was amended in 1997 to provide improved access to braille instruction; inclusion of O&M services; consideration of assistive technology devices and services; and clarification of the right of parents to be accompanied by advocates and others with relevant expertise during the process when their child's IEP is developed as required by law.

Chief among the significant improvements made by the 2004 amendments to IDEA is the requirement for access to instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired. The new amendments require states to adopt the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard and establishes a repository for receiving, maintaining, and distributing electronic copies of accessible materials. In addition, the

amendments provide the option for states to use the repository or provide assurance to the U.S. Secretary of Education that they will distribute textbooks to students with print disabilities in a timely manner.

For more information, contact:

- U.S. Department of Education, Office for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Office of Special Education Programs

Telecommunications Act of 1996

The landmark Telecommunications Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-104), the first major revision of telecommunications policy since the passage of the Communications Act of 1934, requires all manufacturers of telecommunications equipment and services to design and develop their equipment and services to be accessible to and usable by people with disabilities, if readily achievable. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) final report and order implementing the requirements as outlined in Section 255 of the 1996 act is available through the FCC web site at <http://ftp.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/section255.html>

Air Carrier Access Act

The Air Carrier Access Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in air travel and requires air carriers to accommodate the needs of passengers with physical or mental impairments. It applies only to air carriers that provide regularly scheduled services for hire to the public. Requirements address a wide range of issues, including those of particular interest to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. These requirements, relating to such issues as passenger seating assignments, guide dogs, assistive technology, and boarding assistance in newly built aircraft and new or altered airport facilities, may be found in the U.S. Department of Transportation's final rule (Title 14 CFR, Part 382). The act and the final rule also provide for a complaint process that includes requirements for the availability of a conflict resolution officer to assist in immediate resolution of disputes at the airport.

For further information or to file a complaint, contact:

- U.S. Department of Transportation: Aviation Consumer Protection Division

Help America Vote Act of 2002

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) (P.L. 107-252) extends important access requirements to every part of the voting process, including accessibility of voting machines, voter registration, and poll worker training. In addition, HAVA established an Election Assistance Commission to participate in the administration of federal elections and provide assistance with the administration of federal election laws and programs. The commission also assists in the establishment of minimum election standards for state and local government units with responsibility for the administration of federal elections. For further information and assistance in directing filed complaints, contact:

- The Federal Election Commission

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND POLICIES

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

The Library of Congress administers a free library program of braille and audio materials circulated to eligible borrowers and distributed through a cooperating network of regional and local libraries. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) selects and produces full-length books, magazines, and other materials in braille, audio, and related formats. Reading materials and playback machines are sent to borrowers free of charge and are returned to libraries by postage-free mail. Specific information about eligibility and the catalog of materials may be obtained from regional and local libraries or by contacting NLS at www.loc.gov/nls.

Free Matter for the Blind

A special or "Free" mailing privilege is another important right that has been extended to blind and other persons with disabilities who cannot use or conveniently read conventionally printed material due to a physical handicap. The privilege is conditional upon the determination of eligibility and the type of material. Specific information may be obtained through local post offices or by obtain-

ing a copy of Publication 347 "Mailing Free Matter for Blind and Visually Handicapped Persons" from:

- United States Postal Service: Consumer Advocate

Randolph-Sheppard Act

The Randolph-Sheppard Act (P.L. 74-732, as amended) grants a priority right to blind and visually impaired individuals to operate cafeterias, vending machines, snack bars, and gift shops on federal property. The act also provides the authority for the establishment of a committee of blind vendors in each state to work with the state licensing authority to oversee and provide management assistance to vending facility operators. Federal oversight is provided by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, Blind and Visually Impaired Division. Further information may be obtained from www.ed.gov.

Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act

Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Act (P.L. 92-28) established the Committee for the Purchase from the Blind or Severely Disabled, an independent federal agency to facilitate the distribution of government orders of procurement list products and services among nonprofit agencies employing people who are blind or have other severe disabilities. The committee has designated National Industries for the Blind and National Industries for the Severely Handicapped as the national central nonprofit organizations to assist nonprofit agencies in their participation in the program. This legislation helps provide employment in manufacturing, service, supervisory, and professional and management positions to persons who are blind or visually impaired who are employed by the nonprofit agencies participating in JWOD designated programs. Further information may be obtained from www.jwod.gov.

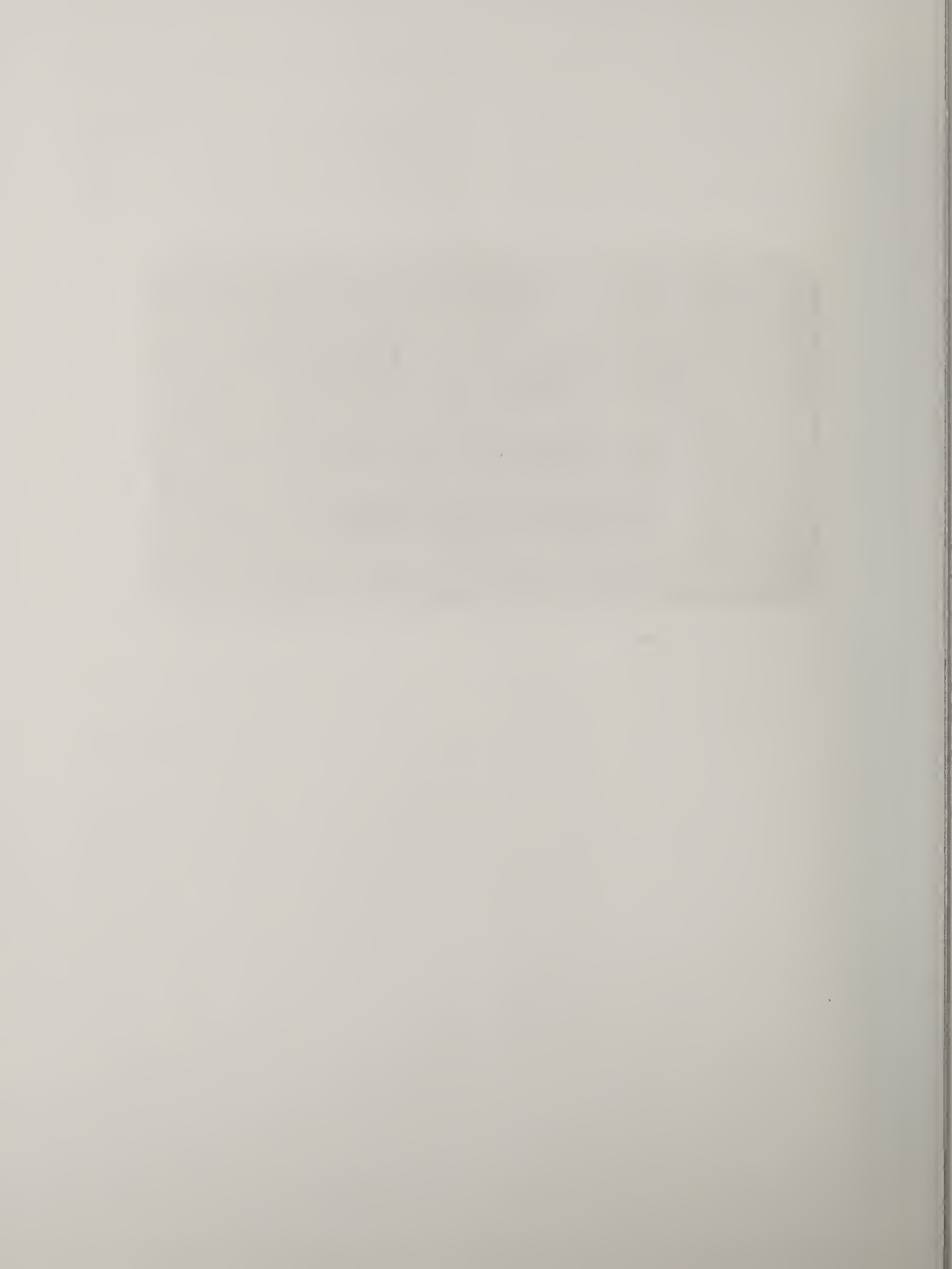
KEY CANADIAN PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION

As in the United States, the Canadian government has expressed a strong commitment to the rights of its citizens who have disabilities and has been involved for several years in reexamining, strengthening, and focusing its efforts. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms contained within the Canadian constitution guarantees people with disabilities equality and equal protection under the law. The Canadian Human Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination based on disability, was amended in 1998 to add a "duty to accommodate" persons with disabilities; this law applies to federal employers and service providers. The Employment Equity Act was passed in 1986, and the Omnibus Bill of 1992 guarantees a large number of specific rights. In 1997, the Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities, administered by Social Development Canada, was created to help individuals with disabilities move into paid employment through such activities as job creation, training, provision of adaptive equipment and personal supports, and wage subsidies. Other key federal legislation includes the Canada Assistance Plan of 1966, the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Established Programs Financing Act of 1977, and the National Training Act of 1982.

In policy statements, Social Development Canada has affirmed its commitment to active measures to promote independence, employment, and accessibility for people with disabilities. But up to the present, Canada has not passed sweeping antidiscrimination legislation such as the ADA in the United States; nor does it have national education legislation such as IDEA. As in the United States, government directives are administered by different departments, such as Transport Canada, the Library and Archives Canada, Department of Justice, Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada, Veterans Affairs Canada, and so forth.

Section One

United States Organizations



Federal Agencies

Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board)

1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20004-1111
Tel: (202) 272-0080
(202) 272-0081 (Fax)
(202) 272-0082 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 872-2253 (Toll-Free)
(800) 993-2822 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.access-board.gov
E-mail: info@access-board.gov
Lawrence W. Roffee, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer Section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and enforce the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, which prohibits architectural and transportation barriers to disabled persons in federally funded buildings.

Additional Information: The Access Board is an independent federal agency devoted to accessibility for people with disabilities. Its key responsibilities are to develop and maintain accessibility requirements for the built environment, transit vehicles, telecommunications equipment, and for electronic and information technology; provide technical assistance and training on these guidelines and standards; and enforce accessibility standards for federally funded facilities.

Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

1421 Jefferson Davis Highway
Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800
Arlington, VA 22202-3259
Tel: (703) 603-7740
(703) 603-0655 (Fax)
www.jwod.gov
E-mail: info@jwod.gov
Leon A. Wilson, Executive Director, lwilson@jwod.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1972.

Mission: To provide people who are blind or have other severe disabilities with employment and training that will develop and improve job skills as well as prepare them for outside employment.

County/District where located: Arlington County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 29.

Publications: Annual report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates for employment and training of blind or severely disabled persons using the purchasing power of the federal government.

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

1801 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20507
Tel: (202) 663-4900
(202) 663-4494 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 669-4000 (Toll-Free)
(800) 669-6820 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.eeoc.gov/
Cari Dominguez, Chair

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote equal opportunity in employment through administrative and judicial enforcement of the federal civil rights laws and through education and technical assistance.

Additional Information: EEOC enforces Section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in federal employment, and the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Federal Election Commission

999 E Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20463
 Tel: (202) 694-1100
 (800) 424-9530 (Toll free)
 (202) 219-3336 (TDD/TTY)
www.fec.gov/
 Scott E. Thomas, Commissioner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To disclose campaign finance information, to enforce the provisions of the law such as the limits and prohibitions on contributions, and to oversee the public funding of Presidential elections.

Federal Communications Commission: Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office (FCC/CIB/DRO)

445 12th Street, SW
 Washington, DC 20554
 Tel: (888) 835-5322 (TDD/TTY)
 (888) 225-5322 (Toll-Free)
www.fcc.gov/cib/dro/
 E-mail: fccinfo@fcc.gov
 K. Dane Snowden, Chief, Consumer & Governmental
 Affairs Bureau

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make sure that people with disabilities—such as a hearing, visual, speech, or other disability—get the same opportunities as everyone else to telecommunicate.

Additional Information: The FCC has a historic commitment to ensuring that Americans with disabilities have access to the communications age. FCC was founded upon the principle of universal service, which requires the FCC to ensure, as far as possible, that all Americans have access to the telecommunications network. Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 furthers this goal by authorizing the FCC to require the accessibility of telecommunications equipment and services and video programming. The Consumer Information Bureau (CIB), which houses the Disability Rights Office (DRO), provides consumers with accurate and timely information and attempts to resolve their complaints in an effective and amicable manner. CIB promotes partnerships with other FCC bureaus and offices, consumer groups, industry groups and state and local municipalities, to enhance consumer awareness, solicit feedback and encourage more public participation in the work of the FCC. CIB/DRO handles inquiries and complaints with regard to Section 255 requirements for access to telecommunications equipment and services.

Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)

1291 Taylor Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20542
 Tel: (202) 707-5100
 (202) 707-0712 (Fax)
 (202) 707-0744 (TDD/TTY)
 (800) 424-8567 (Toll-Free)
www.loc.gov/nls
 E-mail: nls@loc.gov
 Frank Kurt Cylke, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1931.

Mission: To administer a free national library program of braille and recorded books and magazines to individuals who cannot utilize standard printed materials because of visual or physical impairments.

County/District where located: Washington, DC

Geographic area served: United States and American citizens living abroad

Eligibility requirements: Blind persons whose visual acuity, as determined by competent authority, is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting lenses, or whose widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees; persons whose visual disability, with correction and regardless of optical measurement, is certified by competent authority as preventing the reading of standard printed material; persons certified by competent authority as unable to read or unable to use standard printed material as a result of physical limitations; persons certified by competent authority as having a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction and of sufficient severity to prevent their reading printed material in a normal manner.

Ages served: 5-115.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 766,000

Fee structure: Free to those meeting eligibility requirements.

Publications: Braille Book Review, a bimonthly list of recent braille books; Library Resources for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, an annual directory; News, a quarterly newsletter about events at NLS; Talking Book Topics, a bi-monthly list of recent audio books; Update, a quarterly newsletter with articles about volunteer activities at libraries; annual catalogs and bibliographies.

Additional Information: From a beginning of 19 cooperating libraries, the network has expanded to 57 regional and 77 subregional libraries throughout the U.S. TelecomPioneers, G.E. Elfun, other volunteers, and state personnel serve the program by repairing talking-book machines.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Professional Training to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides reference information service on all aspects of blindness and other physical disabilities that affect reading to individuals with disabilities, their families, and the professionals who work with them.

Library: A free national library program of braille and recorded materials for blind and physically handicapped persons is administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), Library of Congress. Under a special provision of the U.S. copyright law and with the permission of authors and publishers of works not covered by the provision, NLS selects and produces full-length books and magazines in braille and recorded formats. Reading materials are distributed to a cooperating network of regional and subregional libraries where they are circulated to eligible borrowers. Reading materials and playback machines are sent to borrowers and returned to libraries by postage-free mail. Braille books, magazines, and music materials are also available on the Internet through Web-Braille. Maintains a music collection of scores in braille and large print; textbooks and books about music in braille and large print; music appreciation cassettes, including interviews and opera lectures; and self-instructional cassettes for voice, piano, organ, electronic keyboard, guitar, recorder, accordion, banjo, harmonica, and other instruments. Braille scores and books are also available on the Internet. The NLS research program is directed toward improving the quality of reading materials and playback equipment, controlling program costs, and reducing the time required to deliver services to users. Current research activities are focused primarily on digital audio materials and include (1) the development of production tools, (2) the identification of distribution media, and (3) the design of playback devices.

Distance Education: Offers correspondence courses.

Personnel Preparation: Administers free correspondence courses in cooperation with a network of volunteer groups throughout the United States to train sighted persons as braille transcribers and persons who are blind as braille proofreaders.

Professional Training: Offers free correspondence courses leading to certification in braille transcribing (literary, music, and mathematics braille) and braille proofreading. Will provide training in audio book production on request to local recording groups. Publishes a directory of agencies and volunteer groups that produce books for libraries and individuals. Volunteers may call on NLS staff for their expertise in braille transcription and recording techniques.

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

3311 Toledo Road
Hyattsville, MD 20782-2003
Tel: (301) 458-4000
(866) 441-6247 (Toll-Free)
www.cdc.gov/nchs/
E-mail: nchsquery@cdc.gov
Edward J. Sondik, Director, esondik@cdc.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide statistical information that will guide actions and policies to improve the health of the American people. As the nation's principal health statistics agency, NCHS leads the way with accurate, relevant, and timely data.

County/District where located: Prince Georges County

Additional Information: NCHS collects, compiles, and disseminates data related to health and vital statistics, including information on prevalence of vision defects, based on household interview surveys.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides access to data that examines the diagnosis and treatment of conditions that affect vision. Also provides data on the use of assistive technology devices for vision, hearing, mobility, and orthopedic impairments.

National Council on Disability (NCD)

1331 F Street, NW, Suite 850
Washington, DC 20004
Tel: (202) 272-2004
(202) 272-2022 (Fax)
(202) 272-2074 (TDD/TTY)
www.ncd.gov
Lex Frieden, Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible location.

Staff: 12.

Additional Information: NCD is an independent federal agency making recommendations to the President and Congress on disability policy.

National Institutes of Health: National Eye Institute (NEI)

31 Center Drive, MSC 2510
Bethesda, MD 20892-2510
Tel: (301) 496-5248
(301) 402-1065 (Fax)

www.nei.nih.gov/

E-mail: 2020@nei.nih.gov

Paul A. Sieving, Director, (301) 496-2234,
ps261o@nih.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To conduct and support research that helps prevent and treat eye diseases and other disorders of vision.

Additional Information: NEI finances and conducts research on the eye and vision disorders, supports training of eye researchers, and publishes materials on visual impairment.

National Institutes of Health: National Institute on Aging (NIA)

Building 31, Room 5C27
31 Center Drive, MSC 2292
Bethesda, MD 20892-2292

Tel: (301) 496-1752

(301) 496-1072 (Fax)

(800) 222-4225 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 222-2225 (Toll-Free)

www.nia.nih.gov

E-mail: webmaster@nia.nih.gov

Richard J. Hodes, Director, rh32z@nih.gov

Jane Shure, Head, Office of Communications,
shurej@nia.nih.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

Mission: To improve the health and well-being of older Americans through research, and specifically to support and conduct high-quality research on aging processes, age-related diseases, and special problems and needs of older adults; train and develop highly skilled research scientists from all population groups; develop and maintain state-of-the-art resources to accelerate research progress; and disseminate information to the public and interested groups on health and research advances and on new directions for research.

Geographic area served: U.S.

Publications: The NIA has an extensive collection of print, audiovisual, and web-related materials on aging and aging-related diseases for consumers. To order a list of free publications: 1-800-222-2225 (toll free); 1-800-222-4225 (TTY); niaic@jbs1.com (email); www.niapublications.org (website); or write to NIA Information Center, P.O. Box 8057, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8057.

Additional Information: NIA sponsors research on aging through extramural and intramural programs. The extramural program funds research and training at universities, hospitals, medical centers, and other public and private organizations nationwide. The

intramural program conducts basic and clinical research in Baltimore, MD, and on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD.

Small Business Administration (SBA)

409 Third Street, SW, Suite 5900

Washington, DC 20416

Tel: (202) 401-8200

www.sba.gov/

Hector Barreto, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1953.

Additional Information: SBA administers the Small Business Act, including small business loans to disabled individuals. SBA maintains local offices throughout the country.

Social Security Administration (SSA)

6401 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21235

Tel: (800) 772-1213

(800) 325-0778 (Toll-Free TDD)

www.ssa.gov

Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: SSA administers old age, survivors, and disability insurance programs under Title II of the Social Security Act. Also administers the federal income maintenance program (Supplemental Security Income for the aged, blind, and disabled) under Title XVI of the Social Security Act. SSA maintains a network of local and regional offices nationwide.

U.S. Department of Education: Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

550 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20202

Tel: (202) 205-5413

(202) 245-6840 (Fax)

(877) 521-2172 (TDD/TTY)

(877) 521-2172 (Toll-Free)

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html

E-mail: OCR@ed.gov

James Manning, Assistant Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation through vigorous enforcement of civil rights.

Additional Information: OCR guarantees access to an equal and appropriate elementary and secondary education and educational services and auxiliary aids and services for students with disabilities.

U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)

400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Tel: (202) 245-7468
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/index.html?src=mr

John H. Hager, Assistant Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support programs that assist in educating children with special needs, provide for the rehabilitation of youths and adults with disabilities, and support research to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Additional Information: OSERS has administrative supervision of Office of Special Education Programs, Rehabilitation Services Administration, and National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.

U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)

400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Tel: (202) 205-8134
(202) 205-4475 (TDD/TTY)
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/nidrr/index.html

Stephen J. Tingus, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To conduct comprehensive and coordinated programs of research and related activities to maximize the full inclusion, social integration, employment, and independent living of disabled individuals of all ages.

U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)

400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Tel: (202) 245-7459
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html

Stephanie Smith Lee, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To focus on the free appropriate public education of children and youths with disabilities from birth through age 21.

Additional Information: OSEP administers the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and related programs for the education of disabled children, including grants to institutions of higher learning and fellowships to train educational personnel; grants to states for the education of disabled children; research and demonstration projects; and special programs, such as centers and services for children who are deaf-blind.

U.S. Department of Education: Office of the Secretary

400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-0498
Tel: (202) 401-2000
(202) 401-0596 (Fax)
(800) 872-5327 (Toll-Free)
(800) 437-0833 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.ed.gov

Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence for all Americans.

Additional Information: The Department of Education administers grants and contracts for research and demonstration projects related to disabled persons and administers research and training centers.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Atlanta: 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Room 19T40, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Boston: 540 McCormack Courthouse, Boston, MA 02109-4557.

Chicago: 111 North Canal Street, Suite 1094, Chicago, IL 60606-7204.

Dallas: 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 2700, Dallas, TX 75202-6817.

Denver: 1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204-3582.

Kansas City: 10220 North Executive Hills Boulevard, Suite 720, Kansas City, MO 64153-1367.

New York: 75 Park Place, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10007.

Philadelphia: 100 Penn Square East, Wanamaker Building, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

San Francisco: 50 United Nations Plaza, Room 205, San Francisco, CA 94102-4987.

Seattle: 915 Second Avenue, Room 3362, Seattle, WA 98174-1099.

U.S. Department of Education: Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)

400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Tel: (202) 245-7488
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rsa/index.html
Joanne Wilson, Commissioner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: RSA oversees formula and discretionary grant programs that help individuals with physical or mental disabilities to obtain employment and live more independently through the provision of such supports as counseling, medical and psychological services, job training and other individualized services. RSA's major Title I formula grant program provides funds to state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies to provide employment-related services for individuals with disabilities, giving priority to individuals who are significantly disabled.

U.S. Department of Education: Rehabilitation Services Administration, Division of Blind and Visually Impaired

400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Tel: (202) 245-7468
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rsa/bvid.html
Suzanne Mitchell, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop methods, standards, and procedures to assist state agencies in the rehabilitation of blind persons. Administers the Randolph-Sheppard Act, which assures priority for blind persons in the operation of vending facilities on federal property.
Additional Information: The Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides guidance and technical assistance to improve the achievement of employment outcomes for persons who are blind and visually impaired. The division also oversees the implementation of the Randolph-Sheppard Act and provides federal funding and support to the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

370 L'Enfant Plaza Promenade, SW
Washington, DC 20447
Tel: (202) 401-9215

(202) 205-9688 (Fax)
www.acf.dhhs.gov/
Wade Horn, Assistant Secretary, Children and Families

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: The ACF, within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is responsible for federal programs that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities. ACF has administrative supervision of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Families and Youth Bureaus, and Administration for Native Americans.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Administration on Aging (AoA)

One Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, DC 20201
Tel: (202) 619-0724
(202) 357-3555 (Fax)
(800) 877-8339 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 677-1116 (Toll-Free) Eldercare Locator
www.aoa.gov/
E-mail: AoAInfo@aoa.hhs.gov
Josefina Carbonell, Assistant Secretary for Aging

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: AoA administers the Older Americans Act of 1965 to assist states and local communities develop programs for older persons.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244
Tel: (410) 786-3000
(877) 267-2323 (Toll-Free)
(866) 226-1819 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.cms.hhs.gov/
Mark McClelland, Administrator, (202) 690-6726

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assure health care security for beneficiaries.

Additional Information: CMS administers the Medicare, Medicaid, and Child Health Insurance Programs. CMS helps pay the medical bills for more than 75 million beneficiaries.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Professions (BHPr)

5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
Tel: (301) 443-5794
www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/

Kerry Nessler, Associate Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide national leadership in assuring a health professions workforce that meets the health care needs of the public and to work to increase health workforce diversity, improve health workforce distribution and insure health workforce quality.

Additional Information: Through appropriated funds, BHPr supports education programs, credentialing, analysis, and development of human resources needed to staff the U.S. health care system.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)

5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
Tel: (301) 443-2170
(301) 443-1797 (Fax)
www.mchb.hrsa.gov/
E-mail: ctibbs@hrsa.gov

Peter P. van Dyck, Associate Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and improve the health of our nation's mothers and children.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Office of the Secretary (DHHS)

200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201
Tel: (202) 619-0257
(877) 696-6775 (Toll-Free)
www.hhs.gov
E-mail: hhs@mail@os.dhhs.gov

Mike Leavitt, Secretary of Health and Human Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To protect health and give a special helping hand to those who need assistance.

Additional Information: DHHS is the principal agency protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are

least able to help themselves. DHHS administers the Older Americans Act of 1965 to assist states and local communities to develop programs for older persons.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Atlanta: Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsythe Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30323.

Boston: JFK Federal Office Building, Room 2126, Boston, MA 02203.

Chicago: 233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1300, Chicago, IL 60601.

Dallas: 1301 Young Street, Room 1028, Dallas, TX 75202.

Denver: 1961 Stout Street, Room 378, Denver, CO 80294-3538.

Kansas City: 601 East 12th Street, Room 126, Kansas City, MO 64106.

New York: Jacob K. Javits Federal Building, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.

Philadelphia: Public Ledger Building, 150 S.

Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3499.

San Francisco: Federal Office Building, Room 431, 50 United Nations Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Seattle: 2201 Sixth Avenue, MS RX02, Seattle, WA 98121-1826.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
Tel: (202) 708-1112
(202) 708-1445 (TDD/TTY)
www.hud.gov/groups/disabilities.cfm

Alphonso Jackson, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1965.

Mission: To ensure a decent, safe, and sanitary home and suitable living environment for every American.

Additional Information: HUD enforces the nation's fair housing laws.

U.S. Department of Justice: Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530
Tel: (202) 307-2227
(202) 307-1198 (Fax)
(800) 514-0301 (Toll-Free)
(800) 514-0383 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.usdoj.gov/crt/drs/drshome.htm

John L. Wodatch, Chief

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To coordinate the implementation by federal agencies of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,

as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in federally assisted programs and in programs and activities conducted by federal executive agencies. Also enforces pattern or practice cases or cases of general importance for Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act on public accommodations operated by private entities.

Additional Information: The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) provides information about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) through a toll-free ADA Information Line. This service permits businesses, state and local governments, or others to call and ask questions about general or specific ADA requirements, including questions about the ADA Standards for Accessible Design. ADA specialists are available Monday through Friday from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM (eastern time) except on Thursday when the hours are from 1:00 PM until 6:00 PM. The Disability Rights Section implements the DOJ's responsibilities under the ADA in three areas: Title I: Employment practices by units of state and local governments; Title II: Programs, services, and activities of state and local governments, and Title III: Public accommodations and commercial facilities (private facilities and nonprofit service providers). Enforcement possibilities cover a wide spectrum of potential actions including investigations, formal or informal settlement agreements, consent decrees (approved by a court), and litigation. The Department provides a mandated Technical Assistance Program for businesses, state and local governments, and individuals with responsibilities and rights under the law and certifies state and local building codes that meet or exceed the ADA Standards for Accessible Design. The Section also operates a pilot project to facilitate the use of mediation to settle ADA disputes. It also coordinates the implementation by federal agencies of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in federally assisted programs and in programs and activities conducted by federal executive agencies.

U.S. Department of Labor: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)

200 Constitution Avenue, SW
Suite S-2307
Washington, DC 20210
Tel: (202) 693-2700
(202) 693-2725 (Fax)
(877) 889-5627 (Toll-Free)
www.doleta.gov

Emily Stover De-Rocco, Assistant Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To contribute to the more efficient and effective functioning of the U.S. labor market by providing high quality job training, employment, labor

market information, and income maintenance services primarily through state and local workforce development systems.

Additional Information: ETA administers federal government job training and worker dislocation programs, federal grants to states for public employment service programs, and unemployment insurance benefits. These services are primarily provided through state and local workforce development systems.

U.S. Department of Labor: Employment Standards Administration, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)

200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room S2321

Washington, DC 20210

Tel: (202) 693-0200

(866) 487-2365 (Toll-Free)

(877) 889-5627 (Toll-Free TDD)

www.dol.gov/esa/ofccp/

Charles E. James, Assistant Secretary, (202) 293-0101

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1965.

Mission: To promote affirmative action and equal employment opportunity on behalf of minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and covered veterans.

Additional Information: OFCCP monitors compliance with Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 providing for affirmative action in the employment of qualified disabled workers by contractors with the federal government, as well as similar provisions of law regarding disabled veterans (38 U.S.C. 2012); also investigates complaints.

U.S. Department of Labor: Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division (USDOL ESA WHD)

200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room S3510

Washington, DC 20210

Tel: (202) 693-0072

(866) 487-9243 (Toll-Free)

(877) 889-5627 (Toll-Free TDD)

www.dol.gov/esa/whd/

Alfred B. Robinson, Acting Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: Monitors compliance with sub-minimum wage requirements for disabled workers in work centers, community rehabilitation programs,

sheltered workshops, competitive industry, and hospitals and institutions under Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Act of 1938.

U.S. Department of Labor: Office of Disability Employment Policy

200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210
Tel: (202) 376-6200
(202) 693-7888 (Fax)
(866) 633-7365 (Toll-Free)
(877) 889-5627 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.dol.gov/odep/
W. Roy Grizzard, Jr., Assistant Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide national leadership by developing and influencing disability-related employment policy as well as practice affecting the employment of people with disabilities.

U.S. Department of Labor: Office of the Secretary (DOL)

200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite S2018
Washington, DC 20210
Tel: (202) 693-6000
(877) 889-5627 (TDD/TTY)
(866) 487-2365 (Toll-Free)
www.dol.gov/
Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prepare the American workforce for new and better jobs, and ensure the adequacy of America's workplaces.

Additional Information: DOL is responsible for the administration and enforcement of over 180 federal statutes. These legislative mandates and the regulations produced to implement them cover a wide variety of workplace activities for nearly 10 million employers and well over 100 million workers, including protecting workers' wages, health and safety, employment and pension rights; promoting equal employment opportunity; administering job training, unemployment insurance and workers' compensation programs; strengthening free collective bargaining and collecting, analyzing and publishing labor and economic statistics.

U.S. Department of Transportation: Office of the Secretary (DOT)

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590
Tel: (202) 366-4000
(202) 366-7202 (Fax)

(202) 755-7687 (TDD/TTY)
www.dot.gov
E-mail: dot.comments@ost.dot.gov
Norman Mineta, Secretary of Transportation

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1966.

Mission: To ensure a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future.

Additional Information: The Office of the Secretary (OST) oversees the formulation of national transportation policy and promotes intermodal transportation. Other responsibilities range from negotiation and implementation of international transportation agreements, assuring the fitness of U.S. airlines, enforcing airline consumer protection regulations, issuance of regulations to prevent alcohol and illegal drug misuse in transportation systems and preparing transportation legislation.

U.S. Department of Transportation: Aviation Consumer Protection Division (ACPD)

400 Seventh Street, SW
Room 4107
Washington, DC 20590
Tel: (202) 366-2220
(202) 366-5944 (Fax)
(800) 778-4838 (Toll-Free)
(800) 455-9880 (Toll-Free TDD)
www.dot.gov/airconsumer/
E-mail: airconsumer@ost.dot.gov
Norman Strickman, Assistant Director,
norman.strickman@dot.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: ACPD receives informal complaints from members of the public regarding aviation consumer issues; verifies compliance with DOT's aviation consumer protection requirements; provides guidance to the industry and members of the public on consumer protection matters; and makes available to the public information on pertinent consumer matters. ACPD operates a complaint handling system for consumers who experience air travel service problems.

U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

400 Seventh Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20590
Tel: (202) 366-4040
(888) 446-4511 (Toll-Free)
www.fta.dot.gov
E-mail: ada.assistance@fta.dot.gov
Jennifer Dorn, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: FTA administers federally assisted mass transit programs. FTA maintains regional offices throughout the country.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Blind Rehabilitation Service (BRS)

810 Vermont Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20420
 Tel: (202) 273-8481
 (202) 273-7603 (Fax)
www.va.gov/blindrehab/index.cfm

Charles Crawford, Director,
Charles.Crawford@hq.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1948.

Mission: To coordinate a healthcare service delivery system that provides a continuum of care for blinded veterans extending from their home environment to the local VA facility and to the appropriate rehabilitation setting. These services include adjustment to blindness counseling, patient and family education, benefits analysis, comprehensive residential inpatient training, outpatient rehabilitation services, the provision of assistive technology, and research.

Additional Information: BRS oversees programs for blinded veterans within the Veterans Health Administration. Services offered include Visual Impairment Services Teams (VIST) assistance and Blind Rehabilitation Center and Clinic Programs. VISTs are diagnostic and treatment agents who provide periodic evaluations of physical, visual, hearing, and adjustment status and ongoing individualized treatment according to needs, goals, and eligibility. Their resources include health services, financial benefits, adaptive equipment, referral for comprehensive blind rehabilitation, low vision services, vocational training, and support and adjustment counseling. Blind Rehabilitation Center and Clinic Programs offer comprehensive rehabilitation services that encompass orientation and mobility skills; visual skills including ophthalmology and optometry; manual skills; communication and personal management skills; physical education and recreation; avocational skills and leisure time activities; psychological counseling and social work; general medical care; audiology; education in personal health care and dietary management; family programs; community resources; and review of benefits. Blind Rehabilitation Centers offer instruction in the use of specialized electronic travel aids and reading machines, computer access training as well as the latest technological devices. Clinic programs are designed for blinded veterans who have special problems and/or needs in addition to blindness. Blind Rehabilitation Centers and Clinics are authorized to provide prosthetic and sensory aids to blinded veterans to assist

them in overcoming blindness. There is at least one VIST designated for each state. Blind Rehabilitation Centers are located at VA Medical Centers in: Birmingham, Alabama; Palo Alto, California; West Haven, Connecticut; West Palm Beach, Florida; Augusta, Georgia; Hines, Illinois; Waco, Texas; Tacoma, Washington; and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists veterans in making an emotional and behavioral adjustment to blindness through individual counseling sessions and group therapy meetings.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides comprehensive adjustment to blindness training and serves as a resource to a catchment area usually comprised of multiple states. Offers a variety of skill courses designed to help blinded veterans achieve a realistic level of independence. These skill areas include orientation and mobility, communication skills, activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social/recreational activities.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:
 Rehabilitation Research and Development
 Center of Excellence for Aging Veterans with
 Vision Loss**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

Atlanta VA Medical Center
 Rehabilitation Research and Development (151-R)
 1670 Clairmont Road
 Decatur, GA 30033
 Tel: (404) 321-6111 x5064
 (404) 738-4837 (Fax)
www.varrd.emory.edu

Bruce Blasch, Research Health Scientist, Vision, (404)
 321-6111 Ext. #6277, bearconsul@aol.com

William R Del'Aune, Research Psychologist, Vision,
 (404) 321-6111 Ext. #6257,

Bill.Delaune@atlanta.va.gov

Ronald Schuchard, Research Health Scientist, Director,
 (404) 321-6111 Ext. #1572, rschuch@emory.edu

Gale R Watson, Research Health Scientist, Certified
 Low Vision Therapist, (404) 321-6111 Ext. #6789,
Gale.Watson@med.va.gov

Michael Williams, Research Health Scientist, Vision,
 (404) 321-6111 Ext. #7981,
Mike.Williams2@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

Mission: To improve the everyday function and quality of life of aging Veterans with vision loss and their caregivers.

County/District where located: Dekalb County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff description: Center staff includes approximately 50 rehabilitation researchers, medical doctors, architects, visual psychophysicists, biostatisticians, psychologists, engineers, post-doctoral research fellows.

Publications: Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development (published by Rehabilitation Research and Development Main Office, Washington DC).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Does research into problems, amelioration for older adults with visual impairments and disseminates research results.

Professional Training: Offers post-doctorate research fellows and in-service training.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)

810 Vermont Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20420

Tel: (202) 530-9340

(800) 829-4833 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 827-1000 (Toll-Free)

www.vba.va.gov/

Daniel L. Cooper, Under Secretary for Benefits

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide benefits and services to the veterans and their families in a responsive, timely, and compassionate manner in recognition of their service to the nation.

Additional Information: VBA furnishes compensation and pensions for disability and death to veterans and their dependents. Provides vocational rehabilitation services, including counseling, training, and assistance toward employment, to blinded veterans disabled as a result of service in the armed forces; also provides rehabilitation services to certain peace-time veterans. Offers and guarantees loans for the purchase or construction of homes, farms, and businesses.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

810 Vermont Avenue, NW

Suite 800

Washington, DC 20420

Tel: (202) 273-5400

www1.va.gov/health_benefits/

Jonathan B. Perlin, Acting Under Secretary of Health

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve the needs of America's veterans by providing primary care, specialized care, and related medical and social support services. To accomplish this mission, VHA needs to be a comprehensive, integrated healthcare system that provides excellence in health care value, excellence in service as defined by its customers, and excellence in education and research, and needs to be an organization characterized by exceptional accountability and by being an employer of choice.

Additional Information: VHA provides hospital and outpatient treatment as well as nursing home care for eligible veterans in Veterans Administration facilities. Services elsewhere provided on a contract basis in the United States and its territories. Provides non-vocational inpatient residential rehabilitation services to eligible legally blinded veterans of the armed forces of the United States.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management: Federal Employment of People with Disabilities

1900 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20415-1000

Tel: (202) 606-1800

(202) 606-2532 (TDD/TTY)

www.opm.gov/disability/

E-mail: disability@opm.gov

Dan G. Blair, Acting Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: Establishes policy for employment of disabled persons within the federal service. Administers a merit system for federal employment that includes recruiting, examining, training, and promoting people on the basis of knowledge and skills, regardless of sex, race, religion, or other factors.

U.S. Postal Service (USPS)

475 L'Enfant Plaza SW

Washington, DC 20260

Tel: (202) 268-2000

www.usps.gov/

John E. Potter, Postmaster General and CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional Information: USPS provides for free mailing matter for blind and other disabled persons.

National Organizations

AARP

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049
Tel: (202) 434-3525
(202) 434-6483 (Fax)
(877) 434-7598 (TDD/TTY)
(888) 687-2277 (Toll-Free)
(888) OUR AARP (Toll-free number)
www.aarp.org
E-mail: member@aarp.org
Bill Novelli, CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1958.

Mission: To enhance quality of life for all as we age and to lead positive social change and deliver value to members through information, advocacy, and service.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: AARP The Magazine (monthly), AARP Bulletin (monthly), Segunda Juventud (Spanish language periodical), NRTA Live and Learn.

Additional information: AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization for people 50 and older. It provides information and resources; advocates on legislative, consumer, and legal issues; assists members to serve their communities; and offers a wide range of unique benefits, special products, and services for its members.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy to older persons.

Advocacy: Serves the needs of people age 50 and older, advocating in their interests regarding health issues, community services.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to services for members.

Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP)

330 N. Commerce Park Loop, #200
Tucson, AZ 85745
Tel: (520) 887-6816
(520) 887-6826 (Fax)
www.acvrep.org
E-mail: info@acvrep.org
Sharon Mikrut, President, smikrut@acvrep.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2000.

Mission: To offer professional certification for vision rehabilitation and education professionals in order to improve service delivery to persons with vision impairment. ACVREP is committed to quality certification programs that meet rigorous recognized standards. Programs are designed to offer certificants the means to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and professionalism.

County/District where located: Pima

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: See web site for eligibility requirements.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, MST.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Staff: 2. President and Administrative Assistant.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Fee structure: Application fee: \$25 (AER or AOTA members) or \$40 (non-AER or non-AOTA members); Exam fee: \$100; Five-year certification/recertification fee: \$250 (AER or AOTA members) or \$375 (non-AER or non-AOTA members)

Publications: ACVREP certification handbooks.

Additional information: ACVREP certifies professionals in the following three areas: Low Vision Therapy, Orientation and Mobility, and Rehabilitation Teaching.

Achilles Track Club (ATC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

42 West 38th Street, Suite 400

New York, NY 10018

Tel: (212) 354-0300

(212) 354-3978 (Fax)

www.achillestrackclub.org

E-mail: AchillesClub@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

Mission: To encourage people with all kinds of disabilities to participate in short- or long-distance running with the general public.

Geographic area served: International.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: The Achilles Heel.

Additional information: ATC has 40 chapters in the United States and over 110 chapters on six continents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Provides support, training, and technical expertise to runners at all levels and disabilities.

American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

655 Beach Street

San Francisco, CA 94109

www.aao.org

E-mail: eyemd@aao.org

Tel: (415) 561-8500

(415) 561-8533 (Fax)

Michael R. Redmond, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1896.

Mission: To advance the lifelong learning and professional interests of ophthalmologists (Eye M.D.s) to ensure that the public can obtain the best possible eye care.

Publications: EyeNet Magazine and Ophthalmology.

Additional information: AAO is an association of Eye M.D.s that provides a wide variety of programs, products and services to Eye M.D.s and the patients they serve.

American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 193832

San Francisco, CA 94119

Tel: (415) 561-8505

(415) 561-8531 (Fax)

www.aapos.org/

E-mail: aapos@aao.org

Susan H. Day, President

Denise Wilson, Client Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide ethical leadership for comprehensive medical and surgical eye care of children and adults with strabismus through education of present and future members, other health care providers and the public and through encouraging research.

American Association of Certified Orthoptists (AAO)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

UIHC - Ophthalmology

200 Hawkins Drive

Iowa City, IA 52242

Tel: (319) 356-3863

(319) 384-9831 (Fax)

www.orthoptics.org

Pamela Kutschke, President, (319) 356-3863,

pamela-kutschke@uiowa.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote, educate, train and place certified orthoptists.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Publications: Prism, American Orthoptic Journal, The Eyes of a Child (handbook and video on pediatric vision screening).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Apprises membership of information relating to orthoptics and issues of interest to orthoptists.

Library: Maintains a library relating to treatment of defects in binocular function and low vision acuity.

Preschool: Sponsors a national project on preschool vision screening.

Professional Training: Offers annual national and regional continuing education seminars, conferences, workshops on issues of interest to orthoptists.

American Association of the Deaf-Blind (AADB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

814 Thayer Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Tel: (301) 495-4403

(301) 495-4404 (Fax)

(304) 495-4402 (TDD/TTY)

www.aadb.org

E-mail: info@aadbb.org

Jamie Pope, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1937.

Mission: To provide information and technical assistance to deaf-blind persons, families, educators, and service providers.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Staff: 2 staff members.

Publications: Deaf-Blind American, Deaf-Blind Contact Directory (resource directory).

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to providers of services for the deaf-blind.

Information and Referral: Provides information on deaf-blindness to deaf-blind persons, families, and educators. Maintains network of chapters throughout the country to refer to local resources for deaf-blind persons.

Professional Training: Holds annual convention.

American Association of Visually Impaired Attorneys

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 1590

Indianola, MS 38751

Tel: (662) 887-5398

Gary Austin, President, austingl@bellsouth.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To address the special problems of blind people in the legal profession.

County/District where located: Sunflower County.

Publications: Membership newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Maintains Internet listing for discussion of issues of concern to blind lawyers. Promotes production of law materials in braille.

American Blind Bowling Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

6317 Phillips Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Tel: (412) 421-1861

Judie Fitzpatrick, Secretary

Mission: To promote bowling for blind/visually impaired people. Sanctions leagues, sponsors tournaments.

County/District where located: Washington County.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Must have 4 legally blind participants to start ABBA-sanctioned bowling league.

Accessibility: Provides bowling guide rails.

Fee structure: Junior members age 7-18, free; regular members over 18 pay \$9 sanction fee.

Publications: The Blind Bowler (3 times yearly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Promotes bowling for blind or visually impaired individuals. Provides administration for 106 blind bowling leagues in the United States and Canada.

American Blind Skiing Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

416 East Thornhill Lane

Palatine, IL 60074

Tel: (847) 255-1739

www.absf.org/

E-mail: ABSF@absf.org

Sam Skobel, Founder

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1969.

Mission: To teach blind or visually impaired people how to ski.

County/District where located: Cooks County.

Eligibility requirements: 8 years old or above, blind or visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facility, braille signage. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Foundation Grants.

Staff: Volunteer staff.

Fee structure: Free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Sends speakers to address motivational groups of blind/visually impaired people to identify potential blind skiing participants and provide information.

Information and Referral: Provides information about blind skiing in Chicago region and nationally.

Recreation: Teaches skiing to blind/visually impaired individuals, organizes races and other events.

American Council of the Blind (ACB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 1004

Washington, DC 20005

Tel: (202) 467-5081

(202) 467-5085 (Fax)

(800) 424-8666 (Toll-Free) (2:00 PM-5:00 PM EST)

www.acb.org

E-mail: info@acb.org

Melanie Brunson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1961.

Mission: To work toward independence, security, equality of opportunity and improved quality of life for blind and visually impaired people.

County/District where located: Washington, DC.

Geographic area served: United States and its territories.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Funded by: United Way, Private Donations.

Staff: 7.

Publications: The Braille Forum, published 8 times a year in large print, braille, on four-track tape, computer disk, e-mail and online.

Additional information: ACB has 51 state and regional affiliates and 19 national special interest and professional affiliates.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation regarding employment of blind and visually impaired individuals and technical assistance and materials to blindness organizations throughout the world.

Employment: Maintains the ACB Job Bank, a source of current job postings in a wide variety of fields. State and local chapters feature employment-related sessions at conventions, including job fairs, help in resume writing, training in computer skills, and workshops on body image and interviewing strategies.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral on all aspects of blindness, public education and awareness training, and on programs and services in the blindness field and laws affecting blind persons.

American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

Kansas State University
2323 Anderson Avenue, Suite 226
Manhattan, KS 66502-2912

Tel: (785) 532-2737

(785) 532-7732 (Fax)

www.ksu.edu/acres

E-mail: acres@ksu.edu

Phoebe Gillespie, Chair, pgillespie@nasdse.org
Judy Weyrauch, Headquarters Manager, College of Education, Kansas State University

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Mission: To provide leadership and support that will enhance services for individuals with exceptional needs, their families, and the professionals who work with them, and for the rural communities in which they live.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Fee structure: Membership dues.

Publications: Rural Special Education Quarterly Journal, Ruralink (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Sponsors annual conference for parents and professionals to share information on rural special education issues. Provides listserv for discussion of rural special education issues.

American Diabetes Association (ADA)

1701 North Beauregard Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Tel: (703) 549-1500

(703) 836-7439 (Fax)

(800) 342-2383 (Toll-Free)

www.diabetes.org

E-mail: customerservice@diabetes.org

Lynn Nicholas, CEO, (703) 299-2001,
stacey@diabetes.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1940.

Mission: To prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

County/District where located: Alexandria City.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 1 - 100.

Clients served annually: 18 million Americans with diabetes.

Staff: 850.

Publications: Books, journals, brochures for consumers with diabetes and their families and publications for health professionals.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment; Information and Referral to older persons.

Assessment: Eye assessments (dilated eye examinations) performed during American Diabetes Month (November).

Information and Referral: Information provided through call center and web site. Provides information during American Diabetes Month, with activities throughout the year at the local level for persons with diabetes.

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)

11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300
New York, NY 10001
Tel: (212) 502-7600
(212) 502-7777 (Fax)
(212) 502-7662 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 232-5463 (Toll-Free)

www.afb.org

E-mail: afbinfo@afb.net

Carl R. Augusto, President and CEO
Walter Decker, Executive Vice President,
wdecker@afb.net

Crista L. Earl, Director, Web Operations, crista@afb.net
Natalie Hilzen, Director and Editor in Chief, AFB Press,
nhilzen@afb.net

Corinne Kirchner, Director, Policy Research and
Program Evaluation, corinne@afb.net

Maureen Matheson, Vice President, AFB Press and
Information Services, mmatheson@afb.net

Jaclyn Packer, Director, Information Center,
jpacker@afb.net

Kelly M. Parisi, Vice President, Communications,
kparisi@afb.net

Paul Schroeder, Vice President, Programs and Policy,
pws@afb.net

Susan J. Spungin, Vice President, International
Programs and Special Projects, spungin@afb.net

Jim Veltman, Vice President, AccessWorld Solutions
and Talking Book Productions, jveltman@afb.net

Lorraine Zamora, Vice President, Resource
Development, lorraine@afb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1921.

Mission: To expand the possibilities available to
Americans with vision loss.

Geographic area served: National and international.

Ages served: 4 - 99.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: Through AFB Press, publishes a wide
variety of professional, reference, and consumer
materials and videos as well as books in various media,
including the seminal Foundations textbook series; the
Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness (JVIB);
AccessWorld®: Technology for Consumers with Visual
Impairments (online); and the AFB Directory of
Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons in the
United States and Canada. Also publishes AFB eNews,
Words from Washington, and a range of information
related to blindness and visual impairment. Fully
accessible informational web site.

Additional information: AFB—the organization to
which Helen Keller devoted her life—is a national
nonprofit devoted to expanding the possibilities

available to Americans with vision loss. Since 1921, AFB
has addressed the most critical issues facing the
growing blind and visually impaired population,
including independent living, employment, literacy,
and technology. In addition to being a national
information, consultative, and advocacy resource
engaged in a wide variety of initiatives, AFB is home to
the Helen Keller Archives, containing Helen Keller's
correspondence, documents, photographs, and
memorabilia. Headquartered in New York City, AFB
maintains four National Centers in cities across the
United States and a Governmental Relations office in
Washington, DC.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Maintains the National Center on Age-Related
Vision Loss in support of services and information for
older persons, their families, and professionals.

Advocacy: Works with policymakers and advocates
nationally to ensure the rights of people who are blind
or visually impaired and to improve and expand
service programs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides resources
and training that enable those who work with people
who are blind or visually impaired to become effective
literacy instructors. Offers expertise in all areas of
literacy, from braille instruction to the use of
magnification and other low vision devices and
state-of-the-art assistive technology.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces
materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape).

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Works with
technology developers, manufacturers, and
government to make products and services accessible
and provides consultation and technical assistance to
national, state, and local agencies and service groups.
Conducts product evaluations in the area of assistive
and mainstream technology for persons with visual
impairments and publishes them in Access World®.

Education Services: Provides leadership and support
to the AFB Textbooks and Instructional Materials
Solutions Forum, a national coalition striving to ensure
that visually impaired students receive texts and other
instructional materials in alternate media at the same
time that sighted students receive these texts, and the
National Agenda for the Education of Children and
Youths with Visual Impairments, Including Those with
Multiple Disabilities, a national effort of professionals
and parents to improve educational services for
students with disabilities.

Employment: Maintains CareerConnect®, an online
employment tool for people who are blind or have low
vision. CareerConnect® may be used by consumers,
employers, professionals, or parents to learn more
about vocational possibilities for people who are blind
or visually impaired and how to prepare for those
vocations. AFB works to improve the quality of and

increase funding for rehabilitation services that enable blind and visually impaired people to obtain employment and teaches rehabilitation workers about the availability of workplace technology, so that those they train are more valuable to employers. Through national public education efforts, AFB seeks to transform employer attitudes about visually impaired workers.

Information and Referral: Maintains a toll-free information line (800-232-5463) and a graphically rich web site designed to be fully accessible to blind and visually impaired users. A great depth of information is available through the web site, including comprehensive information on every aspect of blindness and visual impairment; a searchable database of nationwide services, message boards, community events, and announcements; guidelines on web accessibility; and the largest collection of Helen Keller memorabilia on the Internet.

Library: Maintains the M. C. Migel Library and Information Center that houses one of the largest collections of print materials related to blindness and low vision in the world. Includes the Helen Keller Archives, photo collections, and a rare book collection.

Professional Training: Conducts the Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute annually and produces a wide variety of professional training materials through AFB Press. Offers student internships in technology and other areas and conducts workshops and training sessions on literacy, employment and aging nationwide.

American Foundation for the Blind: AccessWorld Solutions

11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300
New York, NY 10001
Tel: (212) 502-7600
E-mail: awsolutions@afb.net

Jim Veltman, Vice President, jveltman@afb.net

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers services and products relating to accessibility consulting in the key service categories of product testing/evaluation/usability, web site evaluation, and accessibility training.

American Foundation for the Blind: Governmental Relations

820 First Street, NE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20002
Tel: (202) 408-0200
(202) 289-7880 (Fax)
www.afb.org
E-mail: afb.gov@afb.net

Alan Dinsmore, Acting Director, adinsmore@afb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Publishes Words from Washington, delivered via e-mail.

Additional information: AFB Governmental Relations partners with policymakers, other blindness organizations, and advocates from all 50 states to ensure that people who are blind or visually impaired enjoy the same rights and opportunities as other Americans.

American Foundation for the Blind: National Center on Age-Related Vision Loss

11030 Ables Lane
Dallas, TX 75229
Tel: (214) 352-7222
(214) 352-3214 (Fax)
www.afb.org
E-mail: dallas@afb.net

Judy Scott, Director, jscott@afb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Additional information: The National Center on Age-related Vision Loss provides comprehensive information to millions of older people who are blind or visually impaired and their families, and seeks to connect them to national and local services and agencies that will allow them to live more independently. Information, education, and technology relating to age-related vision loss are presented all under one roof and through the Internet.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Consultation/Technical Program Assistance to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Nationally offers consultation, technical assistance, and support and undertakes local and national efforts such as training programs, public education, and coalition building in the areas of aging and education. The Center also houses a model living environment, featuring adaptations such as the creative use of colors and textures for way-finding, lighting options that reduce glare, and available high- and low-tech devices that help preserve the independence of visually impaired older Americans.

Information and Referral: Responds to inquiries from blind and visually impaired people and their families, service providers, and the general public in the region and nationally.

American Foundation for the Blind: National Employment Center

44 Montgomery Street, Suite 1305
 San Francisco, CA 94104
 Tel: (415) 392-4845
 (415) 392-0383 (Fax)
www.afb.org
 E-mail: sanfran@afb.net
 Gil J. Johnson, Director, gil@afb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Additional information: The AFB National Employment Center serves as an interface between employers, blind and visually impaired job seekers, and the rehabilitation professionals who serve them to address the unacceptably high unemployment rate among people who are blind or visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Nationally offers consultation, technical assistance, and support and undertakes local and national efforts such as training programs and public education in the area of employment.

Information and Referral: Responds to inquiries from blind and visually impaired people and their families, service providers, and the general public in the region and nationally.

American Foundation for the Blind: National Literacy Center

100 Peachtree Street, Suite 620
 Atlanta, GA 30303
 Tel: (404) 525-2303
 (404) 659-6957 (Fax)
www.afb.org
 E-mail: atlanta@afb.net
 Frances Mary D'Andrea, Director, fmd@afb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: DOTS for Braille Literacy.

Additional information: The AFB National Literacy Center promotes literacy among people who are blind or who have low vision, developing teacher-training curricula, and providing resources and workshops for professionals.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Nationally offers consultation, technical assistance, and support and

undertakes local and national efforts such as training programs and public education in the area of literacy.
Information and Referral: Responds to inquiries from blind and visually impaired people and their families, service providers, and the general public in the region and nationally.

Professional Training: Offers training and in-service opportunities for teachers and others who provide literacy instruction to children and adults who are blind or visually impaired; training programs and materials focus on braille literacy, literacy for individuals who have low vision, and the use of technology to increase literacy skills.

American Foundation for the Blind: Talking Book Productions

11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300
 New York, NY 10001
 Tel: (212) 502-7794
www.tbookproductions.com

Gary D. Pollakusky, Executive Producer, (212) 502-7791
 (Fax), garyp@afb.net

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Provides audio production services for commercial, educational, government, and corporate markets. Provides either full audio book production or any combination of the following services: project coordinating, casting, paymaster services, directing, engineering, recording, proofreading, editing, mastering, duplication, packaging and fulfillment.

American Foundation for the Blind: Technology and Employment Center at Huntington (AFB TECH)

949 Third Avenue, Suite 200
 Huntington, WV 25701
 Tel: (304) 523-8651
 (304) 523-8656 (Fax)
 (888) 824-2184 (Toll-Free)
www.afb.org
 Mark Usan, Director, muslan@afb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Additional information: AFB TECH evaluates assistive and mainstream technology and provides objective reviews—published in AFB's AccessWorld® magazine—to help blind and low vision consumers make informed purchasing decisions. AFB TECH also works with technology companies around the world,

assisting them in designing mainstream products that can be used by everyone, sighted and visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Nationally offers consultation, technical assistance, and support and undertakes local and national efforts in employment and technology.

Employment: Maintains CareerConnect®, an online resource offering in-depth assistance and information to blind and visually impaired persons, professionals who work with them, and employers.

Information and Referral: Responds to inquiries from blind and visually impaired people and their families, service providers, and the general public in the region and nationally.

American Optometric Association (AOA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

243 North Lindbergh Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63141

Tel: (314) 991-4100

(314) 991-4101 (Fax)

(800) 365-2219 (Toll-Free)

www.aoanet.org

Michael D. Jones, O.D., Executive Director, St. Louis

Office, mdjones-od@theaoa.org

Kelly Hipp, Director, Professional Relations,

khipp@theaoa.org

Jennifer L. Parker, Manager, Low Vision Section, St.

Louis Office, jlparker@theaoa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1898.

Mission: To advance the quality, availability and accessibility of eye vision and related health care. The Association strives to enhance and promote the independent and ethical decision-making of its members, and to assist doctors of optometry in practicing successfully in accordance with the highest standards of patient care.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Publications: Vision education related materials, catalogue.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

OTHER OFFICES

Alexandria: 1505 Prince Street, #300, Alexandria, VA 22314, www.aoanet.org, (800) 678-9262 (Toll-Free), (703) 739-9497 (Fax), (703) 739-9200. Kelly Hipp, Director, Professional Relations, khipp@theaoa.org.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH)

1839 Frankfort Avenue

P.O. Box 6085

Louisville, KY 40206-0085

Tel: (800) 223-1839

(502) 895-2405

(502) 899-2274 (Fax)

www.aph.org

E-mail: info@aph.org

Tuck Tinsley III, President, ttinsley@aph.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence of blind and visually impaired persons by providing specialized materials, products, and services needed for education and life.

Established: 1858.

Geographic area served: Primarily United States.

Offers services worldwide on a contract basis.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM Eastern time, Mon.-Fri. except holidays.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, public funds.

Staff: 300+.

Publications: Alternate format editions of Reader's Digest, My Weekly Reader, Newsweek Magazine. APH Slate (newsletter).

Additional information: Under the Federal Act to Promote the Education of the Blind, APH is the official supplier of educational materials for visually impaired students below the college level in the United States and its territories. Funds appropriated under the Act are used by each state to purchase educational materials from APH. APH also offers a variety of materials for sale to individuals. APH maintains the LOUIS database, a listing of publications in accessible formats from a number of agencies; Fred's Head, a database of tips and hints by and for persons who are blind or visually impaired; and the Accessible Media Producers database, a listing of volunteers and agencies who publish materials in an accessible format. The Hall of Fame: Leaders and Legends of the Blindness Field is housed at APH, as is the Callahan Museum, which features a history of APH and the development of educational materials for people who are visually impaired. APH sponsors National Instructional Partnerships, a series of workshops held across the United States.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells various materials in alternative formats, low vision items, writing tools, gifts. Products for sale on site and online as well as through several specialized catalogs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides various products used in the teaching and learning of braille. Offers "On the Way to Literacy" a set of storybooks designed to increase preliteracy skills for children who are blind or visually impaired.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational textbooks, software, and other materials for blind or visually impaired students of less than college level. General interest magazines for children and adults. Custom media including menus, maps, signage, books, magazines and other. Computer disk, tactile graphics.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Operates the Advisory Services Division to provide informational, consultative, and administrative services in support of the Federal Quota System under which materials in alternate formats for blind persons are purchased. Provides referral services and technical support for instructional and technological questions. The LOUIS database and Accessible Media Producers database provide information about alternate sources for accessible materials.

Education Services: Administers Federal Quota accounts designated for the purchase of educational materials under the federal Act to Promote the Education of the Blind.

Professional Training: Has personnel available to conduct training sessions, presentations, and workshops in teaching methodology, and prescriptive use of specially designed materials. Cosponsoring with local agencies, APH offers National Instructional Partnerships on current educational topics.

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

4000 Legato Road, Suite 850

Fairfax, VA 22033

Tel: (703) 591-2220

(703) 591-0614 (Fax)

www.ascrs.org

E-mail: ascrcs@ascrcs.org

David A. Karcher, Executive Director, ascrcs@ascrcs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

Mission: To raise the standards and skills of anterior segment surgeons through clinical and practice management education, and by working with patients, government, and the medical community to promote delivery of quality eye care.

County/District where located: Fairfax County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, Administrative Eye Care (monthly), Washington Letter, Eye World.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides membership with up-to-date information on all scientific developments in anterior segment ophthalmic surgery. Also informs on regulatory decisions affecting ophthalmic practices.

American Society of Contemporary Medicine, Surgery and Ophthalmology (ASCMSO)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

820 North Orleans Street, Suite 208

Chicago, IL 60610

Tel: (312) 440-0699

(312) 440-0580 (Fax)

(800) 621-4002 (Toll-Free)

www.ascmso.com/

E-mail: iaos@aol.com

Randall Bellows, M.D., Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1964.

Mission: To promote continuing medical education.

County/District where located: Cook County

Publications: Comprehensive Therapy (monthly journal); Annals of Ophthalmology/Glaucoma (journal).

Additional information: ASCMSO is accredited by Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

SERVICES OFFERED

Professional Training: Offers continuing medical education to physicians and surgeons, with divisions in medicine, ophthalmology, glaucoma, and ocular surgery. Continuing education services include certificates, annual meetings, seminars, and publications. Seminars and publications address a wide variety of clinical topics including current issues pertaining to the ophthalmic practitioner in the ophthalmology division and the primary care practitioner in the medicine and surgery division.

American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses (ASORN)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

655 Beach Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
Tel: (415) 561-8513
(415) 561-8531 (Fax)
www.asorn.org
E-mail: asorn@aao.org
Lisa Brown, Executive Director
Patricia Lamb, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1976.

Mission: To foster excellence in ophthalmic patient care and to support the ophthalmic team through individual development, education and evidence based practice.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: US and International.

Eligibility requirements: RNs are eligible for full membership. Other ophthalmic personnel are eligible for affiliate membership.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 2500

Staff: 3. Staff contracted through an association management firm.

Fee structure: RN Member Dues-\$85, Affiliate Member Dues-\$65, Corporate Member Dues-varies.

Publications: Insight, The Journal of the American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses; Core Curriculum for Ophthalmic Nursing; Recommended Practices for Laser Refractive Surgery; Ophthalmic Procedures-A Nursing Perspective-Office/Clinic; Ophthalmic Procedures-A Nursing Perspective-OR/ASC; Care and Handling of Ophthalmic Microsurgical Instruments.

The Associated Blind (TAB)

315 Fifth Avenue, Suite 807
New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 683-4950
(212) 683-4975 (Fax)
www.eSight.org/
E-mail: MemberServices@eSightCareers.net
Nancy O'Connell, Executive Director,
noconnell@tabinc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1938.

Mission: To provide services that foster economic independence for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Geographic area served: International via Internet.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Accessibility: Complete facility accessibility.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: eSight NetWork News.

Additional information: TAB was founded in 1938 by a group of blind individuals to foster social and economic independence among those who are blind and visually impaired. Today, TAB carries out its mission to impart job development and career management skills to the visually impaired through its online service, eSight Careers Network (www.eSightCareers.net).

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: eSight Careers Network provides phone conferences about removing barriers to employment for people with disabilities; online professional development seminars; job postings; eSight newsletter; step-by-step Career Management Guides; nearly 1,000 articles and 100 forums about trends in employment; profiles of disability-friendly companies; book reviews; scholarships and internship information.

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1703 N. Beauregard Street, Suite 440
Alexandria, VA 22311
Tel: (703) 671-4500
(703) 671-6391 (Fax)
(877) 492-2708 (Toll-Free)
www.aerbvi.org
E-mail: aer@aerbvi.org
Mark D. Richert, Executive Director, markr@aerbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1984.

Mission: To develop and promote professional excellence through support of those who provide services to people with visual impairment.

County/District where located: City of Alexandria.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Dues vary with category of membership.

Publications: AER Report, Job Exchange Online Monthly, RE:View.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Publishes monthly publication of available jobs in the field for its members.

Information and Referral: Informs membership about professional news and development in the field of education and rehabilitation of blind and visually impaired.

Professional Training: Offers continuing education opportunities for professionals working with blind and visually impaired adults and children.

Association for Macular Diseases

210 East 64th Street
New York, NY 10021
Tel: (212) 605-3719
(212) 606-3795 (Fax)
www.macula.org/
E-mail: association@retinal-research.org
Nikolai Stevenson, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1977.

Mission: To promote education on and research into macular diseases and to provide support for affected persons and their families.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides counseling and support to people with macular diseases and helps them lead independent lives.

Information and Referral: Disseminates information on resources.

Rehabilitation: Acts as a nationwide support group for individuals and their families endeavoring to adjust to the restrictions and changes brought about by macular disease.

Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI)

132 West 31st Street, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10001
Tel: (212) 951-8300
(212) 481-7196 (Fax)
www.ajli.org
Susan Danish, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1921.

Mission: To serve in an advisory and coordinating capacity to 296 Junior Leagues throughout the United States, Canada, London, and Mexico City. Through many Junior Leagues, volunteers are provided to organizations such as those for the blind, to educational and informational community projects focused on the prevention of blindness, and to community rehabilitation programs for blind persons, among others.

County/District where located: New York County.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Association of Vision Science Librarians (AVSL)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

SUNY College of Optometry
33 West 42nd Street
New York, NY 10036
Tel: (212) 780-5089 (Local)
(212) 780-5094 (Fax)
www.spectacle.berkeley.edu/~library
Elaine Wells, President, (212) 780-5089,
ewells@sunyopt.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1968.

Mission: To foster development of individual libraries, to develop mechanisms for improving access to vision information, to develop services, particularly reference and bibliographic services, for all individuals having frequent vision information needs, to promote standards for academic vision science libraries.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Individual libraries may have restrictions on use.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Varies by individual library.

Publications: Check main website URL.

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 540666
Waltham, MA 02454
Tel: (781) 788-0003
(781) 788-0033 (Fax)
www.ahead.org
E-mail: ahead@ahead.org
Stephan J. Smith, Executive Director,
Stephan@ahead.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1977.

Mission: To address the need and concern for upgrading the quality of services and support available to persons with disabilities in higher education.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada, England, Australia, Ireland, Northern Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, Japan and Greece.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers instruction in college service delivery evaluation, model policy development, corporate access and legislative compliance to members.

Professional Training: Promotes learning opportunities which will assure access to higher education for all students with disabilities.

AWARE (Associates for World Action in Rehabilitation and Education)

P.O. Box 96
 Mohegan Lake, NY 10547
 Tel: (914) 528-0998
www.awareusa.org
 E-mail: awareusa@aol.com
 Anne Yeadon, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1991.

Mission: To prepare and disseminate self-help publications and implement custom-designed educational programs to increase opportunities for improving the quality of life and personal independence of persons who are blind or have low vision.

County/District where located: Westchester.

Geographic area served: USA and overseas.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Foundation Grants, Private Donations.

Staff: Multidisciplinary team of experienced and professionally qualified educational and rehabilitation personnel from the fields of blindness and low vision.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: Pragmatic, no-cost and easily accessible website publications. Current topics address: inservice training information for long term care personnel and social workers; environmental adaptations; community resources, and "how-to" crafts.

Additional information: Works with sister foundation AWARE-Europe (headquartered in Warsaw, Poland) to provide professional training and publications to rehabilitation service personnel serving persons with visual disabilities living in Central and Eastern Europe.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: In partnership, develops and oversees the implementation of education, rehabilitation, and outreach services for individuals who are blind or have low vision.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: In partnership, conducts onsite evaluations and participates in the development of custom-designed service interventions relevant to specific populations' education and rehabilitation needs.

Information and Referral: Develops and publishes pragmatic self-help materials for persons with vision impairments and those who work with them.

Professional Training: Provides free-of-charge website-based publications of relevance to professionals in training, and persons who are blind or have low vision. Participates in the professional preparation and education of overseas personnel in the field of vision rehabilitation.

Blinded Veterans Association (BVA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

477 H Street NW
 Washington, DC 20001-2694
 Tel: (202) 371-8880
 (202) 371-8258 (Fax)
 (800) 669-7079 (Toll-Free)
www.bva.org
 E-mail: bva@bva.org

Thomas H. Miller, Executive Director, tmiller@bva.org
 Alyson Alt, Membership Director, Membership, (202) 371-8880, aalt@bva.org

Stuart R. Nelson, Communications Coordinator,
snelson@bva.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1945.

Mission: To promote the welfare of blinded veterans and to help veterans and their families meet the challenges of blindness.

County/District where located: Washington, DC.

Geographic area served: United States and its territories.

Eligibility requirements: Any legally blind veteran.

Ages served: 18 - 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: 22. Executive Director, Department of Administration, Department of Communications, Department of Development, Department of Governmental Relations, Department of Finance, Department of Field Services, Membership Department

Publications: BVA Bulletin (published six times per year and sent free in large print to all U.S. blinded veterans).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Advocacy: Represents blinded veterans before the legislative and executive branches of government. Presents testimony each year before the House and Senate Committees on Veterans Affairs and teams with other Veterans Service Organizations in working closely with the VA to assure that all blinded veterans have access to excellent blind rehabilitation services.

Counseling: BVA field representatives provide counseling to other blinded veterans and act as effective role models in helping newly blinded veterans find and follow the road to independence.

Information and Referral: Helps blinded veterans take the first steps in adjusting to blindness and provides inspiration, encouragement, and practical assistance in the benefit claims process.

Support Groups: BVA consists of 54 regional groups that offer social and recreational activities, frequently uniting with other Veterans Service Organizations locally to advocate change. The BVA Auxiliary (BVAA) is composed of spouses, relatives, and friends of blinded veterans, which exists to support the BVA mission.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Boston: 1200 Main Street, JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203, Stephen Mathews, Field Service Representative, Boston Regional Office, (617) 303-5691, bvmatts@vba.va.gov

Decatur: Varo, Suite 1-333, 1700 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30031, Donald Cummings, Field Service Representative, Decatur Regional Office, (404) 929-5338, 316gacummd@vba.va.gov

Fresno: VA Medical Center, Building 11 Room 3, Fresno, CA 93703, Lazaro Martinez, Jr., Assistant National Director of the Field Service Program, Northern California Regional Office, (916) 843-7020

Lakewood: VA Medical Center, Room 352 - Box 25126, Lakewood, CO 80228, Peter Link, Field Service Representative, Denver Regional Office, vsopl@vba.va.gov

Los Angeles: VA Medical Center, 11000 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90024, Earl Ivie, Field Service Representative, Los Angeles Regional Office, (310) 235-6125

Milwaukee: Zablocki VA Medical Center, Room 70-D-20, Milwaukee, WI 53295, Robert D. Malak, Field Service Representative, Chicago Regional Office, (312) 353-1740

Washington: 1722 I Street, NW, Room 242, Washington, DC 20421, Maurice T. Toler, Field Service Representative, (202) 530-9285, blvmtol@vba.va.gov

Braille Authority of North America (BANA)

c/o Kim Charlson
Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library
175 North Beacon Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Tel: (617) 972-7249
(617) 972-7690 (TDD/TTY)
www.brailleauthority.org
Kim Charlson, Chairperson, kim.charlson@perkins.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assure literacy for tactile readers through standardization of braille and/or tactile graphics. Promotes and facilitates the use, teaching, and production of braille and publishes rules, interprets, and renders opinions pertaining to braille in all existing and future codes.

Geographic area served: International.

Publications: English Braille (America Edition, 1994, 2002), Music Braille Code, Braille Formats: Principles of Print to Braille Transcription (1997), Nemeth Code for Mathematics and Science Notation (1972 Revision), Code for Computer Braille Notation (1987).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Promotes braille literacy by encouraging standardization and organizing various committees of experts to address technical issues concerning braille. Sells books of braille codes and guidelines (available under quota funds from the American Printing House for the Blind). Products for sale online.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to resources involving braille standards.

Challenge Aspen

P.O. Box M
Aspen, CO 81612
Tel: (970) 923-0578
(970) 923-7338 (Fax)
(800) 530-3901 (Toll-Free)
www.challengeaspen.com
E-mail: possibilities@challengeaspen.com
Houston Cowan, CEO, houston@challengeaspen.com
Amanda Boxel, Director of Special Projects,
amanda@challengeaspen.com
Mardell Burkholder, Executive Director,
mardell@challengeaspen.com
Sarah Williams, Program Director,
sarah@challengeaspen.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1998.

Mission: To provide recreational and cultural experiences for visually impaired or blind individuals and their families.

County/District where located: Pitkin County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, ages 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Spring/Fall/Summer: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Winter: 7 days a week 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 8 full-time, 20 instructors, 100 volunteers.

Fee structure: Ranges from \$70 to \$400 for instructional activities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers disability awareness, volunteer recruitment, and mentorship programs in schools.

Recreation: Offers activities such as alpine and Nordic skiing, snow shoeing, rock climbing, cycling, hiking, art, movement, horseback riding, rafting, performance. Provides training to volunteer guides and instructors. Offers recreational activities for seniors with trained guides.

Choroideremia Research Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

23 East Brundreth Street
Springfield, MA 01109
Tel: (413) 781-2274
www.choroideremia.org

Cory A. MacDonald, President, CRFPresident@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2000.

Mission: To raise funds to hasten medical research for a cure or treatment of choroideremia as well as promote greater understanding of this inherited degenerative eye condition to those affected, the medical and research communities, and the public at large.

Geographic area served: International.

Clients served annually: Over 100.

Staff: 17. Staff is all voluntary and spread throughout the US and Canada.

Fee structure: Memberships are \$20 (US funds) per year and cover every adult member of the household.

Lifetime memberships are \$250. Corporate memberships are also available.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter published for members.

Additional information: The Choroideremia Research Foundation, Inc. is an international, not-for-profit charitable organization whose membership is comprised of persons with choroideremia, their families and concerned friends.

Christian Association for Rehabilitation and Education Ministries (CARE Ministries)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Rehabilitation agency

321 University Drive
Starkville, MS 39759

E-mail: care@careministries.org

Tel: (662) 323-4999

(800) 336-2232 (Toll-Free)

www.careministries.org

B.J. LeJeune, Executive Director, National Service Center, (662) 323-4999

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1989.

Mission: To address the spiritual and physical needs of persons who are blind, and with the local church, equip them to be actively involved in ministry and service.

County/District where located: Oktibbeha County

Geographic area served: Primarily national; some limited international activities.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind or have a condition leading to blindness.

Hours of operation: 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$125,000

Clients served annually: 1,700

Staff: 5. Executive director, rehabilitation teacher, rehabilitation counselor, recording supervisor, administrative assistant.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: CARE Message (quarterly); Our Daily Bread, The Evangelical Sunday School Lesson Teacher's Commentary (monthly). A number of Christian books and devotional materials on tape.

Additional information: CARE Ministries is an interdenominational Christian ministry.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Christian living, Bible studies, biographies of great Christians, devotional and inspirational books and a limited number of children's books.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Helps provide facility and program assessments and makes accessibility recommendations to churches, missions, and state prisons. Provides accessible materials.

Counseling: Helps set up local vision support groups, provides ongoing materials and assistance to peer group leaders, and helps connect people with national and community resources to assist with social services needs. Provides rehabilitation counseling, career counseling, adjustment counseling, and Biblical counseling services. Maintains a directory of national and local resources for long-term counseling needs. Assists individuals locate local church affiliations.

Parent Assistance: Provides information and referral services for parents of blind children and for blind parents with sighted children.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching and counseling.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Galt: 180 Saddle Court, Galt, CA 95632, Martin Jensen, Publications Coordinator, West Coast Recording Unit, (209) 745-4615.

Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists (CLAO)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

721 Papworth Avenue, Suite 206

Metairie, LA 70005

Tel: (504) 835-3937

(504) 833-5884 (Fax)

www.clao.org

E-mail: eyes@clao.org

John S. Massare, Executive Director, jmassare@clao.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1963.

Mission: To advance quality medical eye care for the public by providing ophthalmologists and other eye care professionals with education and training in contact lenses, refractive surgery, optical dispensing and related eye care science.

County/District where located: Orleans Parish.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: CLAO: Journal of the Contact Lens Association. Contact Lenses: Basic Science and Clinical Practice (book). CLAO Pocket Guide (book). CLAO Guide to Spectacles and Refractive Trends.

SERVICES OFFERED

Professional Training: Provides ophthalmologists and other eye care professionals with education and training in contact lenses, refractive surgery, optical dispensing, and related eye care science.

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

1110 North Glebe Road, Suite 300

Arlington, VA 22201-5704

Tel: (703) 620-3660

(703) 264-9494 (Fax)

(866) 915-5000 (TDD/TTY)

(888) 221-6830 (Toll-Free)

www.cec.sped.org

E-mail: service@cec.sped.org

Drew Allbritten, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1922.

Mission: To improve educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 0 - 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides information on instructional strategies for students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

Professional Training: Sets professional standards, provides continuing professional development, helps professionals achieve the conditions and resources necessary for effective professional practice.

Council of Schools for the Blind (COSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

423 17th Avenue SE

Aberdeen, SD 57401-7699

Tel: (605) 626-2580

(605) 626-2607 (Fax)

www.cosb1.org/

E-mail: kaiserm@sdsbvi.northern.edu

Marjorie Kaiser, President,

kaiserm@sdsbvi.northern.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Mission: To improve opportunities for persons with visual disabilities; promote efficient management of schools for the blind; increase public knowledge about blindness; and encourage appropriate options in school placement for students with visual disabilities.

Geographic area served: North America.

Additional information: COSB is an organization whose members are the day and residential schools for children who are blind or visually impaired throughout North America. Each member school is represented by the lead administrator of the school, or his or her designee. COSB is a resource for the administrator and the school on management issues as well as on issues related to blindness. COSB schools develop and offer model programs; follow promising practices; serve as resource centers; establish and maintain regional links with teacher training programs; and offer extensive outreach services. COSB holds an annual COSB Institute for administrators.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Serves as an information clearinghouse and advocate for areas of interest relating to residential schools for blind and visually impaired persons.

DB-LINK: The National Information Clearinghouse on Children Who Are Deaf-Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

c/o Teaching Research
Western Oregon University
345 North Monmouth Avenue
Monmouth, OR 97361
Tel: (503) 838-8150 (Fax)
(800) 854-7013 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 438-9376 (Toll-Free)
www.dblink.org
E-mail: dblink@tr.wou.edu

John Reiman, Director, reimanj@wou.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1992.

Geographic area served: National.

Ages served: 0 - 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Fee structure: Free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Identifies, coordinates, and disseminates (at no cost) information related to children and youths who are deaf-blind (ages 0 to 21 years).

Delta Gamma Foundation: Service for Sight

3250 Riverside Drive
Columbus, OH 43221-0397
Tel: (614) 481-8169
(614) 481-0133 (Fax)
www.deltagamma.org/found/service.htm

Carol Freeman, Director, freeman14@comcast.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1952.

Mission: To provide grants to national organizations serving those who are blind or visually impaired.

Easter Seals

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

230 West Monroe, Suite 1800
Chicago, IL 60606-4802
Tel: (312) 726-6200
(312) 726-1494 (Fax)
(312) 726-4258 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 221-6827 (Toll-Free)
www.easterseals.com
E-mail: info@easterseals.com

James E. Williams, Jr., President and CEO, (312) 726-6200

Sara Brewster, VP, Communications, (312) 551-7141, sbrewster@easterseals.com

Maureen Kavalor, VP, Program and Provider Services, (312) 551-7115, rkavalor@easterseals.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1919.

Mission: To create solutions that change lives for children and adults with disabilities and other special needs and their families.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide and Puerto Rico.

Eligibility requirements: Varies according to site and according to program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facilities are accessible.

Budget: \$658,000,000.

Clients served annually: 1,000,000 plus.

Staff: 13,500 nationwide. Staff are professional physical, occupational and speech language therapists, child care professionals as well as administrative personnel.

Fee structure: Fee for service, insurance, sliding scale. Some free services.

Publications: Annual Report, About Easter Seals, www.easterseals.com

Additional information: For 85 years, Easter Seals has been providing services that help children and adults with disabilities gain greater independence. Our primary services—medical rehabilitation, job training and employment, inclusive child care, adult day services, and camping and recreation—benefit more than 1 million individuals with disabilities and their families each year through more than 500 centers nationwide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Early Intervention: Provides early childhood assessments and treatment.

Employment: Provides job training and employment services for teens and adults. Offers case management and supported employment and low vision providers.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral.

Preschool: Operates child development centers for provision of inclusive child care.

Professional Training: Offered locally. Local office contact information at www.easter-seals.org.

Recreation: Offers camping program.

Rehabilitation: Offers medical rehabilitation services nationwide. Provides physical/occupational/speech/language therapies for seniors. Offers adult day services.

Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA)

1015 18th Street, NW, Suite 1010

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (202) 775-4999

(202) 429-6036 (Fax)

www.restoresight.org

E-mail: info@restoresight.org

Patricia Aiken-O'Neill, President and CEO,

patricia@restoresight.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1961.

Mission: To establish medical standards for evaluating and distributing corneal transplants.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Geographic area served: Nationwide plus Puerto Rico and Canada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Year in Review, Insight (newsletter), Statistical Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Awards research grants to promote and encourage transplants.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Establishes standards for evaluating and distributing corneal transplants.

Professional Training: Certifies eye banks and technicians.

Eye Care America

655 Beach Street

San Francisco, CA 94109-1336

Tel: (877) 887-6327 (Administrative)

(415) 561-8567 (Fax)

www.eyecareamerica.org

Brad Wong, Executive Director, eca@aao.org

Betty Lucas, Director, Public Service Programs,
blucas@aao.org

Gail Nyman-Josk, Manager of Partnerships,
gnyman-york@aao.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1985.

Mission: To reduce avoidable blindness and severe visual impairment by raising awareness about eye disease and care, providing free eye health educational materials and facilitating access to medical eye care.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Age 65 and above, citizenship or legal residency, no recent care, not a member of HMO.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Fee structure: No fee.

Additional information: EyeCare America is the public service foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Health/Medical: Through the Seniors EyeCare Program, provides a comprehensive, medical eye exam and up to one year of treatment—at no out-of-pocket cost—for any disease diagnosed during the initial exam for people eligible for a referral.

Information and Referral: Operates multiple toll-free, 24-hour, seven-days-a-week, helplines that allow callers to request free eye health educational materials or to see if they qualify for a referral to one of EyeCare America's 7,500+ volunteer ophthalmologists nationwide.

Parent Assistance: Educates parents on how to recognize the symptoms of eye diseases and disorders in their children between newborn and 36 months of age through the Children's EyeCare Program (CEP). The CEP encourages parents who think their child has a vision or eye problem to have their child's eyes examined by their pediatrician, family physician or, if necessary, by an ophthalmologist.

Eye Care Foundation

115 East 61st Street

New York, NY 10021

Tel: (212) 832-7297

www.eyecarefoundation.org

E-mail: contactus@eyecarefoundation.org

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Funds and directs research to find cures for patients with ocular tumors, macular degeneration, and related eye diseases.

Health/Medical: Coordinates national and international prospective-randomized clinical trials to evaluate new methods of diagnosis and treatment.

Information and Referral: Provides the most up-to-date information available to patients and their families, physicians, and other health care providers.

Support Groups: Establishes family and support programs to ease emotional stress and real-life adjustment issues related to severe forms of ocular tumors, macular degeneration, and related ophthalmic conditions.

Fight for Sight

381 Park Avenue South, Suite 809

New York, NY 10016

Tel: (212) 679-6060

(212) 679-4466 (Fax)

www.fightforsight.com/

E-mail: info@fightforsight.com

Mary Prudden, Executive Director,
mary@fightforsight.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1946.

Mission: To support vision research—to find the causes and cures for blindness—and to help save the sight of children through support of pediatric eye centers.

Geographic area served: Nationwide, with some international functions via accredited medical colleges, hospitals, and eye centers outside the United States.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists and supports research projects and plans.

Financial Assistance: Funds student fellowships, post-doctoral fellowships and grants-in-aid to individuals at more than 165 leading eye centers and universities in the U.S. and internationally.

Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

11435 Cronhill Drive
Owings Mills, MD 21117-2220

Tel: (410) 568-0150

(410) 363-2393 (Fax)

(410) 363-7139 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 683-5555 (Toll-Free)

(800) 683-5551 (Toll-Free TDD)

www.FightBlindness.org

E-mail: info@blindness.org

Richard L. Geisel, CEO

Allie Laban-Baker, Director of Public Awareness
Mitsy Palmer, Constituent Service Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1971.

Mission: To fund the research that will discover the causes, treatments, preventive methods, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

County/District where located: Baltimore County, Maryland.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Not open to the public.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: In Focus (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

FIELD OFFICES

Los Angeles: 11400 West Olympic Boulevard, Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90064, SDeRemer@blindness.org.

Glaucoma Foundation

116 John Street, Suite 1605

New York, NY 10038

Tel: (212) 285-0080

(212) 651-1888 (Fax)

(800) 452-8266 (Toll-Free)

www.glaucomafoundation.org/

E-mail: info@glaucomafoundation.org

Scott R. Christensen, President & CEO,
scott@glaucomafoundation.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1984.

Mission: To promote and fund research and public education projects on the causes of glaucoma, early detection and treatment, and potential cures for the disease.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Works in cooperation with companies and organizations to effectively and efficiently screen hundreds of people for glaucoma in a single day with the help of a volunteer team of medical professionals in the community.

Counseling: Offers the first interactive e-mail-based support community for young people with glaucoma. A new component of YUP, YUP-Parents, offers support to relatives of young glaucoma patients who are interested in sharing medical and parental experiences.

Information and Referral: Maintains a worldwide toll-free hotline (1-800-GLAUCOMA, Mon.-Fri., 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST) with trained representatives available to answer specific questions relating to glaucoma, provide assistance in finding doctors, and send out free, informative literature tailored to the general public and glaucoma patients.

Glaucoma Research Foundation (GRF)

490 Post Street, Suite 1427

San Francisco, CA 94102

Tel: (415) 986-3162

(800) 826-6693 (Toll-Free)

www.glaucoma.org

E-mail: info@glaucoma.org

Thomas M. Brunner, President & CEO

Rita Loskill, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Mission: To work to protect and preserve sight through research, public awareness, and patient education.

County/District where located: San Francisco.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-5:00 PM Pacific Time.

Clients served annually: 40,000.

Staff: 6.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Disseminates fact sheets on glaucoma and glaucoma management.

Guide Dog Users (GDU)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

14311 Astrodome Drive

Silver Springs, MD 20906

Tel: (310) 598-5771

(310) 871-7591 (Fax)

(888) 858-1008 (Toll-Free)

www.gdui.org

Sheila Styron, President, sstyron@gdui.org

Jane Sheehan, Treasurer, (301) 598-5771,
treasurer@gdui.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1976.

Mission: To provide peer support and advocacy for persons partnered with dog guides throughout the world.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Staff: All volunteer.

Publications: Pawtracks (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Holds an annual convention in conjunction with American Council of the Blind.

Hadley School for the Blind

700 Elm Street

Winnetka, IL 60093

Tel: (847) 446-8111

(847) 446-9916 (Fax)

(847) 441-8111 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 323-4238 (Toll-Free)

www.hadley.edu

E-mail: info@hadley.edu

Dawn Turco, Senior Vice President, Educational Operations

George Abbott, Dean, Educational Programs and Instructions

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1920.

Mission: To provide educational solutions that empower blind people to live with independence and full participation in home, work, and community life.

Geographic area served: All 50 states and 90 countries.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness or diagnosis of impending blindness or family member of legally blind adult or child, professional or paraprofessional in the blindness field.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 10,000.

Staff: 80.

Fee structure: Free of charge.

Publications: Newsletter, course catalog.

Additional information: Accredited by Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council, the North Central Association on Accreditation and School Improvement and the Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides academic, personal enrichment, and compensatory/rehabilitation education and technical education through distance education courses, including braille reading and writing. Also offers courses for parents of blind children and family members of blind adults.

Professional Training: Offers a program for professionals and paraprofessionals in the blindness field.

Helen Keller International (HKI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

352 Park Avenue South, 12th Floor

New York, NY 10010

Tel: (212) 532-0544

(212) 532-6014 (Fax)

www.hki.org

E-mail: info@hki.org

Kathy Spahn, President & CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1915.

Mission: To save the sight and lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged. To combat the causes and consequences of blindness and malnutrition by

establishing programs based on evidence and research in vision, health and nutrition.

County/District where located: New York

Geographic area served: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, United States of America, Vietnam.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$40,895,874

Clients served annually: 70,000,000.

Staff: 1,000.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Additional information: HKI's global headquarters is in New York and maintains 19 offices in Africa, Asia and Mexico.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services; Consultation/Technical Program Assistance; Health/Medical to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to ministries of health and education in 23 countries overseas.

Health/Medical: Works internationally in close partnership with local governmental and nongovernmental agencies to combat malnutrition, prevent and treat river blindness and trachoma, and provide cataract surgery. In the U.S., Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco and South Africa, HKI provides free vision screening and eyeglasses to needy students.

Rehabilitation: Works in partnership with hospitals, schools and families to improve living standards for the severely visually impaired.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

141 Middle Neck Road
Sands Point, NY 11050-1299
Tel: (516) 944-8900
(516) 944-7302 (Fax)
(516) 944-8637 (TDD/TTY)
www.hknc.org
E-mail: hkncinfo@hknc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967.

Mission: To provide services to youths and adults who are deaf-blind and to provide evaluation, short-term

comprehensive vocational rehabilitation training and assistance to consumers in obtaining employment, housing and community supports.

County/District where located: Nassau County.

Geographic area served: United States and territories.

Eligibility requirements: Both legal blindness and deafness, age 18 or older.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:45 AM-4:30 PM (office), 24 hours a day residential program.

Accessibility: Total accessibility, ramps, braille signage.

Publications: NAT-CENT NEWS, Giving Newsletter.

Additional information: HKNC, headquartered in Sands Point, NY, maintains 10 regional offices, has over 40 affiliated agencies and offers an Older Adult Program. The National Training Team conducts professional training seminars. HKNC is a partner in the National Technical Assistance Consortium and DB-LINK, the National Information Clearinghouse of Children Who Are Deaf-Blind. HKNC supports the National Family Association for Deaf-Blind and maintains a National Registry of individuals who are deaf-blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Assessment: Comprehensive assessment and diagnostic evaluation provided.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille literacy program.

Community Outreach Programs: Available through national and regional offices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons via regional offices.

Counseling: Has a social worker on staff to help clients.

Employment: Provides vocational training.

Information and Referral: Provides information about deaf-blindness, refers to appropriate resources both within agency and externally.

Library: Provides some library services, including braille, large print, talking books and other alternate formats, for people who are deaf-blind.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides advice and guidance to parents of deaf-blind clients.

Professional Training: Offers internship programs in various departments of residential facility, training seminars at headquarters and nationally through a national training team.

Recreation: Offers recreation activities such as swimming, field trips, shopping in local community, social events for students in residence

Rehabilitation: Offers comprehensive rehabilitation services for people who are deaf-blind, including independent living skills, orientation and mobility, vocational rehabilitation, braille training, and through the Communication Learning Center.

Helping Hands for the Blind (HHB)

20734-C Devonshire Street
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Tel: (818) 341-8217
(818) 341-8217 (Fax)
(888) 386-3442 (Toll-Free)
www.HelpingHands4theBlind.com
E-mail: info@helpinghands4theblind.com
Robert J. Acosta, President, boacosta@pacbell.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

Mission: To provide immediate financial and/or advocacy assistance to blind persons in need.

County/District where located: Los Angeles.

Geographic area served: National.

Eligibility requirements: Case by case basis, must be blind.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM daily.

Funded by: Private Donations.

Staff: 1.

Publications: Braille cookbooks.

Additional information: Helping Hands for the Blind is an organization of blind people helping other blind people and provides assistance based on individual needs.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides assistance to blind persons in need.

Hilton/Perkins Program of the Perkins School for the Blind

175 North Beacon Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Tel: (617) 972-7228
(617) 923-8076 (Fax)
www.perkins.org/
Michael Collins, Director, (617) 972-7221,
michael.collins@perkins.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1989.

Mission: To improve the quality of life for children worldwide who are blind with multiple disabilities or deafblind and to improve the lives of these children and their families through increased educational opportunities.

Geographic area served: United States, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Russia.

Ages served: 0 - 25.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 15,000 children, adults and family members worldwide.

Staff: 12. Professional staff are all veteran consultants with long-term experience in serving children who are deafblind or blind with multiple disabilities.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: Catalog available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Conducts training activities for programs and staff serving children who are deaf-blind or blind with multiple disabilities, including courses and seminars and on-site consultation.

Information and Referral: Gathers data, develops curriculum, literature and materials for professionals and parents and disseminates information and literature nationally and internationally.

Parent Assistance: Provides support to parent organizations, for parents of children who are deaf-blind or blind with multiple disabilities.

Professional Training: Offers technical assistance and support to select colleges and universities that provide pre-service training of teachers of children who are deafblind.

IN TOUCH Networks

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

15 West 65th Street
New York, NY 10023
Tel: (212) 769-6270
(212) 769-6270 (Fax)
www.66.40.142.226/InTouch/default.asp
E-mail: intouchinfo@jgb.org
Gail R. Starkey, Station Manager, starkeyg@jgb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To maintain volunteer services allowing blind or physically impaired people access to newspapers and magazines via closed-circuit and cable radio.

Geographic area served: Mainland United States, Alaska and Hawaii.

Eligibility requirements: Inability to read standard print.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Publications: Program Guide to InTouch Networks (in large print or audiocassette).

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts material from more than 100 newspapers and magazines, produced in 1 hour increments, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Special receiver of FM cable radio required. Over 100 newspapers read.

Institute for Families

P.O. Box 54700
Mailstop 111
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0700
Tel: (323) 669-4649
(323) 665-7869 (Fax)
www.instituteforfamilies.org
Nancy Mansfield, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.
Mission: To promote continuing education for ophthalmologists and quality care in ophthalmology and provide support and counseling for parents when there has been a diagnosis of visual impairment in their child.
County/District where located: L.A. County.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.
Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.
Ages served: 0 - 21.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.
Staff: 2 social workers, one administrator.
Publications: Booklets and videotapes on topics associated with visual impairment.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides support for families of children with visual impairments.
Information and Referral: Provides referrals if necessary.
Professional Training: Offers in-service training for health care workers.

International Association of Audio Information Services (IAAIS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization
- Radio reading station

WVTF Public Radio
4235 Electric Road, Suite 105
Roanoke, VA 24014
Tel: (504) 776-2727 (Fax)
(800) 280-5325 (Toll-Free)
www.iaais.org
Heather Lusignan, President,
hlusignan@nbrscanada.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage and support the establishment and maintenance of services which provide access to printed information for individuals who cannot read conventional print because of blindness or any other visual, physical, or learning disability.
County/District where located: Roanoke County.
Geographic area served: United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Africa.
Eligibility requirements: Anyone who is print disabled.
Publications: IAAIS Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Provides audio access to information for people who are print disabled. On its web site, lists radio reading services around the world that have web sites.

International Association of Lions Clubs (Lions Clubs International)

300 West 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842
Tel: (630) 571-5466
(630) 571-8890 (Fax)
www.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.shtml
Gary LaPetina, Executive Administrator,
glapetin@lionsclubs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1917.
Mission: To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.
County/District where located: DuPage County
Geographic area served: International: 44,500 clubs serve in over 185 countries and geographical areas.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Accessibility: ADA compliant.
Staff: Staff provides guidance to volunteers in the field who perform services for the visually impaired.
Publications: The LION Magazine, various health informational brochures, guide for district and multiple-district sight chairs.
Additional information: For assistance, contact the Program Development Department, International Activities and Program Planning Division.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Promotes diabetes awareness and education.
Computer Training: Makes computer training available through individual Lions-supported and vocational facilities.

Health/Medical: Supports most of the world's eye banks, provides corneal transplants, promotes organ and tissue donation.

Information and Referral: Forwards requests appropriately through the Program Development Department. Telephone: (630) 571-5466, extension 318 or 320.

Low Vision: Develops or supports programs to provide vision testing and screenings, conducts special projects, such as those for low vision.

International Braille Research Center (IBRC)

1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
Tel: (410) 659-9314
(410) 685-5653 x2367 (Fax)
www.braille.org

Michael Gosse, President, mgosse@prodigy.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1994.

Mission: To encourage and promote the teaching and use of braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides expertise and guidance to both public and private entities who wish to make braille more widely available to blind persons.

International Society on Metabolic Eye Disease

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

1125 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10128
Tel: (212) 427-1246
(212) 360-7009 (Fax)

Heskel M. Haddad, Secretary/Treasurer

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1973.

Mission: To propagate the study of metabolic diseases and their relation to ophthalmology.

County/District where located: New York County.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Private Donations.

Publications: Metabolic Pediatric & Systemic Ophthalmology.

Jewish Braille Institute of America (JBI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Library
 - National publisher
- 110 East 30th Street
New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 889-2525
(212) 689-3692 (Fax)
(800) 433-1531 (Toll-Free)
www.jewishbraille.org
E-mail: admin@jbilibrary.org

Ellen Isler, Executive Vice President
Pearl Lam, Library Services, plam@jbilibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1931.

Mission: To encourage the integration of Jews who are blind, visually impaired, and reading disabled into the Jewish community and society in general.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Blindness, visual impairment, physical impairment, learning disability.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Accessibility: All services/materials available by mail.

Fee structure: Free of charge.

Publications: Jewish Braille Review, JBI Voice, Likkutim (in Hebrew) and IJBI Cultural Series.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Types of content: Jewish interest materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Has outreach libraries in New York State.

Library: Offers library services by mail worldwide to eligible individuals.

Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO)

2025 Woodlane Drive
St. Paul, MN 55125-2998
Tel: (651) 731-2944
(651) 731-0410 (Fax)
(800) 284-3937 (Toll-Free)

www.jcahpo.org
E-mail: jcahpo@jcahpo.org

Lynn D. Anderson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1969.

Mission: To enhance the quality and availability of ophthalmic patient care by providing qualified allied health personnel and by providing certification and education.

County/District where located: Washington County
Geographic area served: Canada and United States.
Ages served: 16 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Staff: 23.
Publications: Viewpoints (newsletter). Criteria booklets also available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Professional Training: Offers continuing education programs and certification of ophthalmic medical personnel.

Joslin Diabetes Center

One Joslin Place
 Boston, MA 02215
 Tel: (617) 732-2400
 (617) 732-2542 (Fax)
 www.joslin.org
 C. Ronald Kahn, President
 Lloyd M. Aiello, M.D., Director
 Phillip M. Silver, O.D., Chief, Vision Rehabilitation Service

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To investigate new clinical treatment methods for diabetes, operate support camps for diabetic children, and conduct professional education courses.
County/District where located: Suffolk County.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.
Eligibility requirements: Diabetic or referred by ophthalmologist.
Ages served: 16 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.
Staff: Counselor, low vision assistant, ophthalmic photographer, ophthalmic technician, ophthalmologist, optometrist, optometry students, optometry residents, nurse, special educator.
Publications: Joslin Magazine.
Additional information: Maintains affiliate offices in California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Washington, and West Virginia.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Investigates new clinical treatments for diabetes. Maintains large staff of low vision specialists.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.
Professional Training: Offers professional education courses.
Recreation: Maintains support camps for diabetic children.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF)

1000 East State Parkway, Suite I
 Schaumburg, IL 60173-4592
 Tel: (847) 490-3838
 (847) 490-3777 (Fax)
 www.knightstemplar.org/ktef/
 E-mail: ktef@knightstemplar.org
 Kenneth Fisher, CEO
 Marvin L. Selock, Office Administrator,
 ktefofc@ix.netcom.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1956.
Mission: To provide assistance to those who face loss of sight due to surgery provided they are unable to pay or receive adequate assistance from current government agencies or similar sources and to provide funds for research in curing diseases of the eye.
County/District where located: Cook County.
Geographic area served: United States and territories.
Ages served: 0 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.
Fee structure: Varies.
Publications: Various brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Provides funding for surgical procedures and pediatric ophthalmic research.

Lighthouse International

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

111 East 59th Street
 New York, NY 10022
 Tel: (212) 821-9200
 (212) 821-9707 (Fax)
 (212) 821-9713 (TDD/TTY)
 (888) 222-9320 (Toll-Free)
 www.lighthouse.org
 E-mail: info@lighthouse.org

Barbara Silverstone, DSW, President and CEO
 Gloria Aks, Director, Print Access Center
 C. William Bechman, Senior Vice President for Administration
 Betty Bird, Ed.D, Senior Vice President for Rehabilitation Programs and Services and Chief Operating Officer
 Josephine Defini, Ph.D., Clinical Director of Social Work
 Michael Fischer, OD, Director of Low Vision Services
 Leonard Goldstein, Director of Career Services

Amy Horowitz, DSW, Senior Vice President for Research and Evaluation and Director of the Arlene R. Gordon Research Institute
 Martin S. Yablonski, Vice President for Direct Service Administration
 Peter Minichiello, Senior Vice President for External Affairs
 Karen Seidman, Director of Continuing Education
 Cynthia Stuen, DSW, Senior Vice President for Education and Training and Director of the Center for Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1905.

Mission: To overcome vision impairment for people of all ages through worldwide leadership in rehabilitation services, education, research, and advocacy.

County/District where located: Manhattan.

Geographic area served: Direct services provided in greater New York area, including Hudson Valley, Southern Connecticut, Long Island, and New York City. National and international outreach in terms of education (professional), information services, and advocacy.

Eligibility requirements: Functional vision impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM; Sat. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (for programs only).

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: Approximately 400 professional, paraprofessional, and support staff, plus approximately 2,000 volunteers.

Fee structure: Fees for direct service programs and continuing education courses. Discounted fees available; government funding, third-party payments, and insurance reimbursements accepted for some programs.

Publications: Lighthouse News, Aging & Vision News, Envision, Sharing Solutions, Consumer Times (newsletters), Music School, Continuing Education, Lighthouse Publications and Resources, Professional Products, Lighthouse Consumer Catalog (catalogs).

Additional information: Maintains The Lighthouse Center for Education, which is composed of The Lighthouse Continuing Education Program, The Lighthouse National Center for Vision and Child Development, The Lighthouse National Center for Vision and Aging, and The Lighthouse International Center on Low Vision. The Arlene R. Gordon Research Institute conducts vision research. Also conducts scientific inquiry into the physical, functional, and psychosocial consequences of vision impairment and maintains a toll-free information and resource service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts assessments in all areas prior to instruction.

Assistive Products: Distributes products for independent living. For sale on site and online.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers a summer program for blind, visually impaired, and sighted children.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Incidental recordings, braille menus, general information and publications.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers community-based outreach program to educate older adults about the impact of aging on vision. Does outreach to physicians, community groups, and potential consumers.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to employees and school districts. Provides consultations worldwide to hospitals, agencies, and practitioners interested in establishing low vision services.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, and family counseling; case management; crisis intervention; support groups; and referrals to community services.

Early Intervention: Offers center-, community-, and home-based intervention for infants, families, and caregivers. Provides consultations to early intervention programs.

Education Services: Offers remedial skills and course work leading to a GED.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill development, office skills training, job retention, vocational placement, technology instruction, job coaching, work-experience training, and summer placements for teenagers.

Health/Medical: Offers diabetes education and training in use of insulin device.

Information and Referral: Maintains a toll-free number (888-222-9320) for referrals to direct services. Provides general information about vision impairment, vision rehabilitation, and low vision. Publishes Aging & Vision (newsletter) and other publications on age-related vision loss for both professional and lay audiences.

Library: Maintains a full-service library, including a braille, audiotape, large print, and volunteer reading and recording service.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and instruction as part of comprehensive vision rehabilitation services. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers support groups and individual support to parents, families, caregivers and significant others.

Preschool: Offers integrated preschool programs for toddlers and youngsters through age 7.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in low vision, orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, social work, career counseling, special education, and low vision therapy. Offers professional and paraprofessional continuing education courses worldwide.

Reading Services: Offers volunteer reading service.

Rehabilitation: Provides vision rehabilitation, including independent living skills, orientation and mobility, adjustment counseling, psychotherapy, and low vision services.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation

1275 Mamaroneck Avenue

White Plains, NY 10605

Tel: (914) 428-7100

(914) 428-8203 (Fax)

www.modimes.com

Jennifer Howse, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortalities through research, community services, education and advocacy.

County/District where located: Westchester County.

Publications: Materials relating primarily to infant health. Also publishes professional educational material for nurses.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Apprises organizations of availability of volunteers to serve in various capacities at organizations and agencies working with blind or visually impaired persons.

Mississippi State University: Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision (RRTC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

■ Research organization

P.O. Box 6189

Mississippi State, MS 39762

Tel: (662) 325-2001

(662) 325-8989 (Fax)

(662) 325-8693 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 675-7782 (Toll-Free)

www.blind.msstate.edu

E-mail: rrtc@ra.msstate.edu

J. E. Moore, Director, JEMoore@CollEd.MsState.Edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Mission: To enhance employment and independent living outcomes for individuals who are blind or visually impaired through quality research, education, training and dissemination.

County/District where located: Oktibbeha.

Geographic area served: National.

Ages served: 21 - 80.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM (Central Time).

Accessibility: Totally 508 compliant.

Budget: \$2,000,000

Staff: 25. Senior research staff have extensive backgrounds in blindness rehabilitation and statistics. Training staff have backgrounds in rehabilitation teaching of the blind, deaf-blind and deaf, low vision evaluation, computer access technology, Web design and accessibility, and consumer advocacy. About 95% of research staff are certified rehabilitation counselors. One staff member is also a certified rehabilitation teacher.

Publications: Worksight (newsletter), research monographs, informational brochures.

Additional information: In addition to the research program, the Center also conducts a National Training Conference annually and provides in-service training in technology and rehabilitation to state agencies serving persons who are blind/visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: In-service training and continuing education programs, graduate credit offered for vision specialists in vocational rehabilitation program.

Mobility International USA (MIUSA)

P.O. Box 10767

Eugene, OR 97440

Tel: (541) 343-1284

(541) 343-6812 (Fax)

www.miusa.org/

Susan Sygall, CEO/Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Mission: To empower people with disabilities around the world through international exchange, information, technical assistance and training, and to ensure the inclusion of people with disabilities in international exchange and development programs.

Additional information: MIUSA, with sponsorship from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

(ECA) of the U.S. Department of State, manages the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange (NCDE). The NCDE works to educate people with disabilities and disability-related organizations about international educational exchange opportunities, promoting the inclusion of people with disabilities in all types of exchange, community and volunteer service programs. The NCDE also provides advice and technical assistance to international exchange organizations and colleges and universities on how to include people with disabilities in their exchange programs.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance and training to ensure the inclusion of people with disabilities in international exchange and development programs.

Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, Inc. (MGFA)

1821 University Avenue W, Suite S256
St Paul, MN 55104

Tel: (651) 917-6256

(651) 917-1835 (Fax)

(800) 541-5454 (Toll-Free)

www.myasthenia.org

E-mail: mgfa@myasthenia.org

TJ Taugher, CEO

Jennifer A Heidelberger, Patient/Chapter Services

Coordinator, (651) 917-6256, mgfa@myasthenia.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1952.

Mission: To facilitate the timely diagnosis and optimal care of individuals affected by myasthenia gravis and closely related disorders and to improve their lives through programs of patient services, public information, medical research, professional education, advocacy and patient care.

Geographic area served: Nationwide, some international activity.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Foundation Focus (quarterly newsletter), several brochures focusing on myasthenia gravis and related topics.

Additional information: 34 chapters nationwide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides educational information packets to myasthenia gravis patients and professional health care providers.

National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving People with Blindness or Visual Impairment (NAC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

16920 Detroit Road

Lakewood, OH 44107

Tel: (216) 258-3333

(216) 258-2222 (Fax)

www.nacasb.org/

E-mail: shegedoes@nacasb.org

Steven K. Hegedeos, Executive Director,
shegedeos@nacasb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1966.

Mission: To develop a standard to promote effective, sound, and publicly accountable program services, which help visually disabled children and adults achieve their full potential; to ensure, through the accreditation process, that the standards are being met by programs of service that seek accreditation; and to give public recognition to those agencies and schools that operate in compliance with the standards for accreditation.

Staff: Uses many volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Advises on standards for serving blind and visually impaired children and adults.

Information and Referral: Informs agencies on service standards required to gain and maintain accreditation.

National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

P.O. Box 317

Watertown, MA 02471

Tel: (617) 972-7441

(617) 972-7444 (Fax)

(800) 562-6265 (Toll-Free)

www.napvi.org

E-mail: napvi@perkins.org

Susan Laventure, Executive Director

Mary Zabelski, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

Mission: To provide support to parents and families of visually impaired children and youths.

Eligibility requirements: Must be parent of blind/visually impaired child or professionals in field.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Fee structure: Membership dues vary with category of membership.

Publications: AWARENESS, a quarterly magazine. Equals in Partnership. In Celebration of Grandparenting. Children with Visual Impairments. Mainstreaming the Visually Impaired Child. Preschool Learning Activities. Legislative Handbook for Parents. The Student with Albinism in the Classroom.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Educates parents about their rights under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Operates national clearinghouse for information, education, and provides referrals regarding parenting of blind or visually impaired children.

Parent Assistance: Organizes and supports parent groups nationally. Parent and professional seminars provided to address issues of parents of blind or visually impaired children.

National Association for Visually Handicapped (NAVH)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic

3201 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121

Tel: (415) 221-3201
(415) 221-8754 (Fax)

www.navh.org
E-mail: staffca@navh.org

Jeannine Toussaint, NAVH West Coast Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1954.

Mission: To provide low vision services for partially seeing people worldwide.

County/District where located: San Francisco County

Geographic area served: Thirteen western states including Alaska and Hawaii

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Fee structure: Free. Donations welcome.

Publications: Large print NAVH Educational Series. Send for list of titles.

Additional information: NAVH staff offers services in English, Russian, Spanish, and Chinese.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print).

Counseling: Offers self-help support groups.

Information and Referral: Offers programs for the public and professionals.

Library: Maintains a library of large-print books.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training for professionals.

Recreation: Offers activities for seniors.

National Association for Visually Handicapped (NAVH)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization
- Rehabilitation agency

22 West 21st Street
New York, NY 10010

Tel: (212) 889-3141
(415) 221-8754 (Fax)
(888) 205-5951 (Toll-Free)

www.navh.org

E-mail: staff@navh.org

Lorraine H. Marchi, L.H.D., Founder/CEO
Cesar L. Gomez, COO, (212) 255-2804, cesar@navh.org
Jeannine L. Toussaint, M.A., West Coast Program
Director, (415) 221-3201, jtc@navh.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1954.

Mission: To provide services for visually impaired individuals including counseling in the testing and use of visual aids and supplying information to low vision persons, their families and professionals who serve them.

County/District where located: New York County.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Eligibility requirements: Any person who has low vision.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: Thousands.

Staff: 13. Ten at National Headquarters in New York and 3 in Regional San Francisco office. New York staff offers bilingual assistance in Spanish and Italian. San Francisco staff offers Russian and Chinese.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Fee structure: Although dependent upon contributions, no one who is unable to make a donation is denied service.

Publications: NAVH Update (newsletter), Educational Series—most in large print—about vision and common eye diseases. Publications are available in English, and some in Spanish, Russian and Chinese. Seeing It Their

Way, a booklet and poster depicting normal vision and common eye diseases. Large print catalogs: Visual Aids and Informational Material, and the Free-by-Mail Loan Library of over 9000 titles available throughout the nation to those who require or prefer large type. In addition, a complete listing of all publications prepared by NAVH is available.

Additional information: NAVH is a national health agency devoted to serving the hard of seeing. The western regional office in San Francisco serves the 13 western states, and the New York National office serves the rest of the world.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products; Community Outreach Programs; Information and Referral; Computer Training; Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Offers visual aids, talking watches, electronic devices, proper lighting. Products available on site, via mail order, or online.

Community Outreach Programs: Has special outreach program for seniors in underserved neighborhoods.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, Internet and e-mail. Free training on Internet access and e-mail is offered in the New York Office using ZoomText.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults with parents and teaching professionals to address issues relating to partially seeing children in preschool programs.

Counseling: Offers counseling and guidance to partially seeing adults and parents of low vision children, their families, friends, and professionals who serve them.

Information and Referral: Provides information and literature to partially seeing individuals and their families. Refers to ophthalmologists and low vision specialists. Provides informational materials on vision and aging, visual aids counseling and distribution. Distributes vision-related information on nutrition.

Library: Provides large-print publications and has a free large-print loan library by mail throughout the nation.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Counsels parents in nurturing and caring for partially seeing children and provides informational literature and referrals.

Professional Training: Holds seminars and discussion groups to educate professionals and paraprofessionals working with partially seeing adults about the nature of partial vision and their special needs. Offers outreach programs for professionals in the field of low vision.

Recreation: Offers social and recreational programs for partially seeing adults.

Rehabilitation: Conducts rehabilitation programs for partially seeing adults.

Support Groups: Offers emotional support (one-on-one) and self-help peer support groups for seniors.

LOCAL OFFICES

San Francisco: 3201 Balboa Street, San Francisco, CA 94121, staffca@navh.org.

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Consumer membership organization

1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (202) 872-0888

(202) 872-0057 (Fax)

www.n4a.org

Sandy Markwood, CEO, SMarkwood@n4a.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

Mission: To build the capacity of its members to help older persons and persons with disabilities live with dignity in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

County/District where located: District of Columbia

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Caregiver/elderly.

Ages served: 55 - Above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Publications: There's No Place Like Home: Promoting Independence for Older Adults (video). National Directory for Eldercare Information and Referral:

Additional information: Established in 1975 to represent the interest in Washington of Area Agencies on Aging and later the Title VI - Native American Aging Programs, the N4A has daily working relationships with key staff in the White House, Congress, AoA and HCFA. It is widely recognized in Washington as an extremely effective voice for the local delivery of home and community-based services, and is the recipient of numerous grants designed to improve quality-of-life for older Americans. Through its united efforts, N4A's members today serve 43 million seniors 60+ through Older Americans Act programs and services and many more through other programs including state funding, Medicaid waivers, and the Social Services Block Grant.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy; Consultation/Technical Program Assistance; Information and Referral to older persons.

Advocacy: Advocates on behalf of the local aging agencies to ensure that needed resources and support services are available to older Americans.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Facilitates relationships among aging agency network, and other public agencies and private sector organizations.

Information and Referral: Elder Care Locator, an 800-number telephone service, helps seniors to identify health and social services resources in their communities.

National Association of State Directors of Special Education, Inc. (NASDSE)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 320
Alexandria, VA 22314

Tel: (703) 519-3800

(703) 519-3808 (Fax)

(703) 519-7008 (TDD/TTY)

www.nasdse.org

E-mail: nasdse@nasdse.org

Bill East, Executive Director, bill.east@nasdse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1938.

Mission: To provide services to state agencies to facilitate their efforts to maximize educational outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

County/District where located: Alexandria City.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 0 - Above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Foundation Grants, Government Grants, Other.

Staff: 22.

Publications: Counterpoint, numerous pamphlets, books, and videos concerning special education policy, including issues impacting blind or visually impaired persons.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Apprises membership and concerned individuals and groups of news and developments in special education policy. Through its web site, informs membership and public about latest developments in assistive technologies.

Library: Maintains private library of resources on special education laws, regulations and related policy issues.

National Association of State Units on Aging

1201 15th Street, NW, Suite 350

Washington, DC 20005

Tel: (202) 898-2578

(202) 898-2583 (Fax)

(800) 677-1116 (Toll-Free) (Elder care locator)

www.nasua.org/index.htm

E-mail: info@nasua.org

Daniel Quirk, Executive Director, dquirk@nasua.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance social, health, and economic policies responsive to the needs of a diverse aging population and to enhance the capacity of its membership to promote the rights, dignity and independence of, and expand opportunities and resources for, current and future generations of older persons, adults with disabilities and their families.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy; Information and Referral to older persons.

Advocacy: Member organizations offer services to improve the social and economic well-being of older persons.

Information and Referral: Develops and maintains publications on a wide range of program and management issues such as the Older Americans Act, State Unit program operations, home- and community-based long-term care, older worker issues, elder abuse.

National Association of Vision Professionals (NAVP)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1775 Church Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (202) 234-1010

(202) 234-1020 (Fax)

www.visionpros.org

Michele D. Heartlove, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1976.

Hours of operation: Mon.- Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Publications: NAVP News (newsletter).

National Association to Promote the Use of Braille

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

5805 Kellogg Avenue

Edena, MN 55424

Tel: (952) 927-7694

Nadine Jacobson, President, nadine.jacobson@visi.com

Mission: To promote the use of braille by school-age students and adults who are blind. Organization sponsors a children's braille reading contest (Braille Readers Are Leaders).

Geographic area served: No geographic limits.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Staff: All volunteer staff.

Publications: Staying in Touch (semi-annual braille newsletter also available in print).

Additional information: Organization is affiliated with the National Federation of the Blind (NFB).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Promotes braille literacy among children and adults. Provides information about braille sources, sponsors events including children's braille reading contest (Braille Readers Are Leaders). Monitors and discusses among its membership a variety of issues related to the Braille Code.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides speakers to schools and other organizations to inform and educate concerning use of braille.

Information and Referral: Provides information about use of braille and refers to appropriate community resources.

Parent Assistance: Provides information to parents of blind or visually impaired children about efficacy of braille, teaching strategies, and resources.

National Birth Defects Center (NBDC)

40 Second Avenue, Suite 520

Waltham, MA 02451

Tel: (781) 466-9555

(781) 487-2361 (Fax)

www.thegenesisfund.org/nbdc.htm

E-mail: cah@thegenesisfund.org

Caroline Hobbs, Administrative Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1984.

Mission: To provide diagnosis and treatment to children born with birth defects, genetic diseases, and mental retardation.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: National, primarily New England.

Eligibility requirements: Children with birth defects, mental retardation, or genetic diseases (parents also eligible).

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, on call off hours.

Accessibility: Handicapped.

Staff: Pediatric geneticists, genetic fellows, genetic counselors, pregnancy environmental hotline, staff and administrative help.

Additional information: For information about 12 satellite clinics in Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire, call (781) 466-9555.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers genetic counseling and access to other counseling services.

Health/Medical: Treats and follows up on children with birth defects, genetic diseases, mental retardation.

National Braille Association (NBA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Professional membership organization

3 Townline Circle

Rochester, NY 14623-2513

Tel: (585) 427-8260

(585) 427-0263 (Fax)

www.nationalbraille.org

E-mail: nbaoffice@nationalbraille.org

Angela Coffaro, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1945.

Mission: To provide continuing education to those who prepare braille, and to provide braille materials to persons who are visually impaired.

County/District where located: Monroe County.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Braille readers and those who prepare their reading materials.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Doors in sequence. Assistance available.

Staff: 5. Two full-time, 3 part-time employees, 100 volunteers.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Fee structure: Fees charged for braille and print materials, meeting registration, membership dues, Bulletin subscriptions.

Publications: Tape Recording Manual, Tape Recording Lessons, Manual for Large-type Transcribing, NBA Bulletin (quarterly) available in print, braille, on disk

and audio tape, workshop reprints pertaining to all advanced braille codes, tactile graphics, and computer-assisted transcription, catalogs of the braille collection of textbooks, music, general interest and technical tables.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). Types of content: Textbooks, music, vocational materials in braille.

Library: Maintains a braille collection of college-level textbooks, music, general interest (hobbies, vocations), and technical tables. Fee charged.

Professional Training: Provides continuing education to individuals who prepare reading materials for print-handicapped persons through professional development conferences, workshops, consultations, and the publication of guidelines for the production of braille.

National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

175 North Beacon Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Tel: (617) 972-7347
(617) 923-8076 (Fax)

Michael Collins, Co-Chairperson,
michael.collins@perkins.org
Joseph McNulty, Co-Chairperson, abigailp@aol.com
Steven Davies, Executive Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.

Mission: To advocate on behalf of the interests of deaf-blind children and adults by maintaining contact with legislators and policymaking agencies through national organizations having an interest in services to deaf-blind people, and individual members including professionals, parents, and consumers interested in influencing such services.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Fee structure: Membership dues.

Publications: Legislative updates sent to membership as necessary.

National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind (NCPAB)

8770 Manchester Road
St. Louis, MO 63144
Tel: (314) 968-9000

David R. Ekin, President, dekin@slsbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as an advocate concerning issues that relate to programs, operations, and funding affecting voluntary agencies serving blind and visually impaired persons. Offers directors of private agencies serving blind and visually impaired individuals opportunities to learn and share with each other.

National Council of State Agencies for the Blind (NCSAB)

4733 Bethesda Avenue, Suite 330
Bethesda, MD 20814
Tel: (301) 654-4885
(301) 654-5542 (Fax)
www.ncsab.org/default.htm

Brian Sigman, President, Brian.Sigman@po.state.ct.us
Kay McGill, Secretary, Kay.McGill@dol.state.ga.us
Bill Palmer, Treasurer, bilpalmer@dsb.wa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the delivery of specialized services that enable blind individuals to gain self-confidence, independence, employment, and community acceptance.

National Dissemination Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center

P.O. Box 1492
Washington, DC 20013-1492
Tel: (202) 884-8200 Voice and TTY
(202) 884-8441 (Fax)
(800) 695-0285 (Toll-Free) Voice and TTY
www.nichcy.org
E-mail: nichcy@aed.org
Susan Ripley, Director, sripley@aed.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To act as a national information clearinghouse on subjects relating to children and youths with disabilities.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 - 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Publications: General Information about Visual Impairments (Fact Sheet 13), Individualized Education Programs (LG2), Assistive Technology: Becoming an Informal Consumer (ND13), Education of Children and Youths with Special Needs: What do the Laws Say? (ND15), IDEA Amendments of 1997 (ND26).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Acts as information and referral center answering questions received by mail, e-mail, or telephone.

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)

Campus Box 8040-UNC Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8040

Tel: (919) 962-7324

(919) 966-7463 (Fax)

(919) 843-3269 (TDD/TTY)

www.nectac.org

E-mail: pat_trohanis@unc.edu

Pascal Trohanis, Director, pat_trohanis@unc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1996.

Mission: To provide technical assistance to state and jurisdictions in implementing the early intervention provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: All US states and jurisdictions.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Additional information: NECTAC provides information and publications (at cost) about services to visitors to the NECTAC web site, including families of children with special needs.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Advises and directs families to appropriate agencies and services.

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

■ National publisher

1800 Johnson Street

Baltimore, MD 21230-4998

Tel: (410) 659-9314

(410) 685-5653 (Fax)

www.nfb.org

E-mail: nfb@nfb.org

Marc Maurer, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1940.

Mission: To improve social and economic conditions of blind persons.

County/District where located: Baltimore City.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations, endowments.

Staff: 70.

Fee structure: None

Publications: The Braille Monitor, Future Reflections (for parents and educators of blind children), the Voice of the Diabetic.

Additional information: NFB is a consumer organization of blind and sighted individuals working together to improve opportunities for the blind and the understanding of blindness by the general public. Since its beginning in 1940, NFB has been working toward the ultimate purpose of helping blind persons achieve self-confidence and self-respect, and the complete integration of the blind into society on a basis of equality. NFB is doing this by providing public education about blindness, support services to the newly blinded, scholarships, publications about blindness, adaptive equipment and training, advocacy services, and job opportunities for the blind. NFB has affiliates in all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico and several special interest divisions, including those for diabetics, educators, lawyers, parents of blind children, students, and public employees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells a variety of devices and appliances for blind and visually impaired persons. See catalog at www.nfb.org.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Blindness-related materials.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides evaluations of present programs and assistance in establishing new ones.

Employment: Operates America's Jobline® in partnership with U.S. Department of Labor. See www.nfb.org/jobline/enter.htm.

Financial Assistance: Grants scholarships to blind persons.

Information and Referral: Has a public education program, including a speaker's bureau.

Reading Services: NFB-NEWSLINE®, the first digital talking newspaper transmits texts of various newspapers over the phone. Offers in excess of 90 papers nationwide, including USA TODAY, the Chicago Tribune, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Toronto Globe and Mail, the New York Times, and the Wall Street Journal. See www.nfb.org/newsline1.htm.

National Glaucoma Research Program of the American Health Assistance Foundation (AHAF)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

22512 Gateway Center Drive

Clarksburg, MD 20850

Tel: (301) 948-3244

(301) 258-9454 (Fax)

(800) 437-2423 (Toll-Free)

www.ahaf.org/glaucoma/about/ghabout.htm

Eugene H. Michaels, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support glaucoma research. Maintains programs within the foundation: National Heart Foundation, National Glaucoma Research, Alzheimer's Disease Research, Alzheimer's Family Relief Program, and Macular Degeneration Research.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Publications: Understanding Glaucoma (pamphlet), National Glaucoma Research Report (quarterly newsletter), Macular Degeneration (brochure), Low Vision Aid Resource List (annual flier), Macular Degeneration Research News (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides public education informational materials about glaucoma and macular degeneration.

National Industries for the Blind (NIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1901 North Beauregard Street, Suite 200

Alexandria, VA 22311-1727

Tel: (703) 998-0770

(703) 671-9053 (Fax)

www.nib.org

E-mail: info@nib.org

James D. Gibbons, President and CEO, (703) 578-6500, jgibbons@nib.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1938.

Mission: To enhance opportunities for economic and personal independence of persons who are blind primarily through creating, sustaining, and improving employment.

County/District where located: Alexandria City

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Varies, depending on associated agency. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 5,000

Staff: 150. More than 80 associated agencies nationwide employ 5,000 people who are blind.

Fee structure: Varies, depending on associated agency.

Publications: Annual Report. Opportunity Online.

Additional information: Incorporated as a private, nonprofit organization in 1938, NIB operates through the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Act, a federal procurement program enabling people who are blind or otherwise severely disabled to have meaningful employment opportunities. NIB and its more than 80 associated agencies employ more than 5,000 people who are blind nationwide and provide on-the-job training and sponsors the unique Business Leaders Program designed specifically to prepare individuals who are blind for careers in business management.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists member agencies with hiring and job modifications.

Employment: Provides employment opportunities for 5,000 blind or disabled people available via associated agencies across the United States.

Information and Referral: Helps member agencies secure contracts and helps with marketing, logistics, administration and product and service development.

National Marfan Foundation (NMF)

22 Manhasset Avenue

Port Washington, NY 11050

Tel: (516) 883-8712

(516) 883-8040 (Fax)

(800) 862-7326 (Toll-Free)

www.marfan.org

E-mail: staff@marfan.org

Carolyn Levering, President & CEO,

clevering@marfan.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Mission: To save lives and improve the quality of life of individuals affected by the Marfan Syndrome and related disorders.

County/District where located: Nassau County.

Geographic area served: USA & international

Eligibility requirements: Serves individuals affected with Marfan syndrome and their families

Ages served: 0 - 1.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap Accessible.

Budget: \$2,000,000

Clients served annually: 25,000

Staff: 18. President/CEO, administrative staff, Directors of the following: Support Services, Programs & Education, Development, Research & National Volunteer Network

Fee structure: Membership fee of \$35.00.

Publications: An Overview of the Marfan Syndrome (book), A Booklet for Teachers (booklet), Do You Know Marfan? (video), Medical Series brochures, Emergency Room Campaign materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides printed information and videos about Marfan Syndrome and information on clinics that treat Marfan Syndrome.

National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation (NOAH)

P.O. Box 959

East Hampstead, NH 03826-0959

Tel: (603) 887-2310

(603) 887-2310 (Fax)

(800) 473-2310 (Toll-Free)

www.albinism.org

E-mail: info@albinism.org

Michael McGowan, President, president@albinism.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1982.

Mission: To provide information and support to individuals and families with albinism and hypopigmentation through community outreach, enhanced public awareness and education of professionals, and by funding research projects to improve the diagnosis and management of albinism.

County/District where located: Rockingham County.

Geographic area served: Primarily United States, but no restrictions.

Eligibility requirements: Persons with albinism, their families, friends, and the professionals working with them.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24-hour voice mail.

Funded by: Private Donations.

Staff: Operated by members on a volunteer basis.

Publications: Informational bulletins, newsletters, and educational video.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print). **Types of content:** Informational bulletins and newsletters.

Counseling: Offers self-help groups.

Information and Referral: Offers programs to enhance public awareness.

National Self-Help Clearinghouse

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

365 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300

New York, NY 10016-4309

Tel: (212) 817-1822

(212) 817-1561 (Fax)

www.selfhelpweb.org

E-mail: info@selfhelpweb.org

Audrey Gartner, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Mission: To provide information about self-help groups and refer people to regional clearinghouses and self-help organizations. Provides technical assistance to start and maintain groups.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

24-hour voice mail.

Staff: 1. Director

Fee structure: No fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information about self-help and refers to self-help organizations.

National Technical Assistance Consortium for Children and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind (NTAC)

Western Oregon University

Teaching Research Institute

345 North Monmouth Avenue

Monmouth, OR 97361-1314

Tel: (503) 838-8391

(503) 838-8150 (Fax)

(503) 838-9623 (TDD/TTY)

www.tr.wou.edu tac

Kathleen M. Stremel, Project Director, (913) 677-4562

Ext. #15, stremelk@wou.edu

Kathy McNulty, Associate Director / Area Director,

(516) 944-8900 Ext. #311, NTAC4A@attglobal.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1996.

Mission: To assist local programs and families in providing high quality education for children and young adults who are deaf-blind so they can meet the challenging standards of and are prepared for employment and independent living.

County/District where located: Polk County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 0 - 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Publications: DB Perspectives, NTAC briefing papers, topical fact sheets.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to state deaf-blind projects. Consults with organizations and agencies providing services to people who are deaf-blind.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Atlanta: NTAC - Area 3, Helen Keller National Center, Atlanta, GA 30354, NTAC3A@attglobal.net.

Monmouth: NTAC - Area 1, Teaching Research Institute, Monmouth, OR 97361, gansonn@wou.edu.

Sands Point: NTAC - Area 4, Helen Keller National Center, Sands Point, NY 11050, Kathy McNulty, Associate Director / Area Director, (516) 944-8900 Ext. #311, NTAC4A@attglobal.net.

Shawnee Mission: NTAC - Area 2, Helen Keller National Center, Shawnee Mission, KS 66205, stremelk@wou.edu.

New Eyes for the Needy

549 Millburn Avenue
Short Hills, NJ 07078
Tel: (973) 376-4903
(973) 376-3807 (Fax)

Alyce P. Twomey, Executive Director, (973) 376-4903,
NewEyesForTheNeedy@verizon.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1932.

Mission: To improve the vision of the poor by providing new eyeglasses in the United States and redistributing donated eyeglasses to developing nations worldwide.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Financial need with no other resources, public and private, to pay for eyeglasses.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM; Fri. 9:00 AM-12:00 noon.

Clients served annually: 7,000 in the US.

Staff: 2 part-time positions, 150 volunteers. Executive Director and Office Manager.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Low Vision: Distributes new prescription eyeglasses for the needy in the United States.

Opticians Association of America

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

411 Carlisle Drive
Hedron, VA 20170
Tel: (703) 437-8780
(703) 437-0727 (Fax)
www.opticians.org/
E-mail: oaa@oaa.org

Tina Schott, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1926.

Mission: To foster a broader understanding and acceptance of professional retail optical dispensing as indispensable to the health and welfare of the public and to provide the public with efficient, effective and accurate optical dispensing services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Professional Training: Provides a range of services that address the specific needs of dispensing opticians.

Prevent Blindness America (PBA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

500 East Remington Road, Suite 200
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Tel: (847) 843-2020
(847) 843-8458 (Fax)
(800) 331-2020 (Toll-Free)
www.preventblindness.org
E-mail: info@preventblindness.org

Hugh R. Parry, President and CEO,
hparry@preventblindness.org

Gloria Buzanis, Senior VP & CFO,
gbuzanis@preventblindness.org

Debbie Goss, VP, Development,
dgoss@preventblindness.org

Kathy Nelson, VP, Field Operations,
knelson@preventblindness.org

Jeff Todd, VP, Program and Information Services,
jtodd@preventblindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1908.

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-5:00 PM (Central Time).

Clients served annually: 2 million people screened throughout 23 states. Thousands served through PBA Hotline.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Fee structure: Many screenings free, some fee for service. Sample brochures, up to four copies, free of charge.

Publications: PB News (3 times a year), Vision Problems in the U.S., full print and online catalog of brochures.

Additional information: Founded in 1908, PBA is a volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, PBA reaches millions of people each year through public and professional education, certified vision screening training, community and patient service programs and research. These services are made possible through the generous support of the American public. Together with a network of affiliates, divisions, and chapters, PBA is committed to eliminating preventable blindness in America. For more information, or to make a contribution to the sight-saving fund, call 1-800-331-2020 or visit the web at www.preventblindness.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Assistive Products: Eye health and safety materials available. Products for sale via mail order catalog (800-331-2020) or on-line.

Information and Referral: PBA Vision Health Resource Center at 1-800-331-2020 provides information about eye health and safety, free of charge.

Professional Training: Provides certified vision screening training to volunteers and professionals.

Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of America (RSVA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

1808 Faith Place, Suite B

Terrytown, LA 70056-4104

Tel: (504) 368-7785

(504) 368-7739 (Fax)

(800) 467-5299 (Toll-Free)

www.acb.org/rsva

E-mail: rsva@juno.com

Richard Bird, President, (504) 362-3318,

RBird20763@aol.com

Kim Venable, Office Manager, rsva@juno.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1968.

Mission: To promote the expansion and improvement of the Randolph-Sheppard program and the economic benefits and employment opportunities for blind vendors throughout the United States.

County/District where located: Jefferson Parrish.

Geographic area served: United States.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: \$10 annual membership dues.

Publications: Vendorscope (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Keeps members informed about various advocacy issues.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

20 Roszel Road

Princeton, NJ 08540

Tel: (609) 452-0606

(609) 520-7990 (Fax)

(866) 732-3585 (Toll-Free)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: custserv@rfbd.org

John Kelly, President/CEO

Julie D. Haggith, Strategic Communications Specialist,
(609) 520-8044, jhaggith@rfbd.org

Morgan Roth, Vice President, Strategic

Communications, (609) 520-8095, mroth@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1948.

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Geographic area served: Nationally through local units.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:45 PM.

Budget: \$49,564,804.

Clients served annually: Nationally over 126,000

Staff: 404. A mix of staff and volunteers.

Fee structure: See www.rfbd.org.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact newsletter.

Additional information: RFB&D, a nonprofit volunteer organization, provides recorded textbooks for individuals with print disabilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference materials.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

1700 North Moore Street

Suite 1540

Arlington, VA 22209-1903

Tel: (703) 524-6686

(703) 524-6639 (TDD/TTY)

(703) 524-6630 (Fax)

www.resna.org/

E-mail: info@resna.org

Lawrence C. Pencak, Executive Director,

lpencak@resna.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the advancement of rehabilitation and assistive technology, to provide persons with disabilities access to the highest quality technological development and service delivery.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Arlington County.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM EST.

Publications: RESNA News, AT Journal.

Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Research organization

645 Madison Avenue

New York, NY 10022-1010

Tel: (212) 752-4333

(212) 688-6231 (Fax)

(800) 621-0026 (Toll-Free)

www.rpbusa.org

E-mail: inforequest@rpbusa.org

Diane S. Swift, President, dswift@rpbusa.org

Matthew A. Levine, Director of Communications and Marketing, (212) 752-4333, mlevine@rpbusa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1960.

Mission: To support clinical and basic eye research into causes, treatment, and prevention of all eye diseases through annual financial grants, awards,

professorships, and fellowships and to provide information on eye research to the public, press, and other institutions.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00AM-5:00PM

Publications: Eye Research Seminar Papers (biennial), Eye Research News Briefs (annual), Macular Degeneration (brochure), Glaucoma (brochure), Annual Report, Bibliographies of published research papers citing RPB support (online only).

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Provides unrestricted funding to chairs of departments of ophthalmology as well as grants to qualified vision research scientists at every stage of their careers.

Information and Referral: Provides information on eye research to public and press.

RP International

P.O. Box 900

Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Tel: (818) 992-0500

(818) 992-3265 (Fax)

www.rpinternational.org/

E-mail: info@rpinternational.org

Helen Harris, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Distributes specially formatted audiodescribed films through select neighborhood theaters, as well as through libraries, charitable organizations, special screenings, and schools for the blind. Provides audio-oriented versions of media ranging from cards to books.

Counseling: Provides counseling and comfort to people with retinitis pigmentosa and their families.

Low Vision: Offers facilities for demonstrating the latest in visual aids for the partially sighted.

Rehabilitation: Provides mobility training.

Schepens Eye Research Institute (SERI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Research organization

20 Staniford Street

Boston, MA 02114

Tel: (617) 912-0100

www.eri.harvard.edu

E-mail: webcoordinator@vision.eri.harvard.edu

Michael S. Gilmore, Acting CEO

Patti Jacobs, Media Relations Consultant,

pjacobs12@comcast.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1950.

Mission: To conduct basic and clinical research that will lead to the prevention, treatment and cure of visual dysfunction and blindness. The Institute fosters close cooperation between laboratory and clinical scientists and among researchers in diverse disciplines. As part of this mission faculty and staff collaborate with others throughout the world, communicate new knowledge, and train the next generation of investigators.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute: Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (SKERI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

2318 Fillmore Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
Tel: (415) 345-2000
(415) 345-8455 (Fax)
www.ski.org/rerc
E-mail: RERC@ski.org

John Brabyn, Director, brabyn@ski.org
Deborah Gilden, Associate Director, debby@ski.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

Mission: To conduct research and development of technology and methods for rehabilitation associated with blindness, visual impairment, and multisensory loss.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:45 AM-5:15 PM PCT

Accessibility: ADA compliant, talking signs, braille signage, TDD.

Publications: The Smith-Kettlewell Technical File; Compendium of Technology Developed by the Smith-Kettlewell RERC.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides speakers to national and international conferences to describe research on low vision, as well as research and development projects on vocational aids, computer vision, computer access, tactile maps and others.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation on specialized job site adaptations and adaptive devices.

Employment: Consults on vocational devices and adaptations.

Information and Referral: Provides information about technology for blind, low vision, and multihandicapped blind. Refers to other agencies for appropriate services.

TASH

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

29 West Susquehanna Avenue, Suite 210
Baltimore, MD 21204
Tel: (410) 828-8274
(410) 828-6706 (Fax)
www.tash.org
E-mail: info@tash.org
Nancy Weiss, Executive Director, nweiss@tash.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

Mission: To advocate for and promote the human dignity, civil rights, education, and independence of all individuals with disabilities.

County/District where located: Baltimore County.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Staff: Volunteer board and state chapters in addition to staff.

Publications: Journal of the Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (quarterly), TASH Newsletter.

Additional information: Government affairs department advocates with legislatures in the interest of individuals with many types of disability.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provides numerous speakers and presenters to address annual conference on all facets of disability.

Information and Referral: Refers to a wide variety of resources for severely handicapped persons including appropriate educational facilities for specific disabilities. Refers for community living resources for disabled.

Professional Training: Provides facility for professionals to gain continuing education credits in the field of disabilities of many types.

Trace Research & Development Center (The Trace Center)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research Organization

University of Wisconsin-Madison
2107 Engineering Centers Building
1550 Engineering Drive
Madison, WI 53706
Tel: (608) 262-6966 (Local)
(608) 262-8848 (Fax)
(608) 263-5408 (TDD/TTY)
www.trace.wisc.edu
E-mail: info@reace.wisc.edu
Gregg C. Venderheiden, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent the barriers and capitalize on the opportunities presented by current and emerging information and telecommunication technologies, in order to create a world that is as accessible and usable as possible for as many people as possible.

Additional information: The Trace Center is currently working on ways to make standard information technologies and telecommunications systems more accessible and usable by people with disabilities. This work is primarily funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) (U.S. Department of Education).

United Cerebral Palsy

1660 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Tel: (202) 776-0414 (Fax)
(800) 872-5827 (Toll-Free)
Kirsten Nyrop, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advocate for individuals with cerebral palsy and their families, and to provide these individuals with lifelong opportunities and choices that promote their independence, inclusion and quality of life.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

United States Association for Blind Athletes (USABA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

33 North Institute Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Tel: (719) 630-0422
(719) 630-0616 (Fax)
www.usaba.org

E-mail: media@usaba.org

Mark Lucas, Executive Director, mlucas@usaba.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1976.

Mission: To provide sports and recreation opportunities for people who are blind and visually impaired.

Geographic area served: USABA is a national organization with chapters in many areas.

Eligibility requirements: USABA members include athletes with vision of 20/70 or less as well as coaches, guide runners, tandem cycling pilots, volunteers, officials and other supporters.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: Three full-time staff.

Fee structure: Junior Member (under 21): \$25; Adult Member: (21+, including athletes, officials, guides, coaches, teachers, professionals, etc.); Volunteer: \$15; Lifetime Member: \$200; Residential School for the Blind Junior Member: \$15; Residential School for the Blind Adult Member: \$21.

Publications: Insight (newsletter)

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Offers training camps and competitions in the following sports: swimming, track and field, wrestling, gymnastics, goal ball, skiing, skating, power lifting, judo, and tandem cycling.

United States Blind Golf Association (USBGA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

3094 Shamrock Street North
Tallahassee, FL 32309
Tel: (850) 893-4511
www.blindgolf.com
E-mail: usbga@bellsouth.net
Jim Baker, President, (615) 885-2952,
jvbaker@mindspring.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1953.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired with a minimum of 20/200 in best corrected eye.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 1. Secretary.

Fee structure: Yearly membership fees: Totally Blind \$25, Vision Impaired \$15 and Support \$10.

Publications: The Midnight Golfer Newsletter. Online information is also available at www.blindgolf.com

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Functions as an organization for blind and visually impaired golfers to compete with their peers.

United States Braille Chess Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

428 West Lima Street

Findlay, OH 45840

Tel: (419) 422-2833

www.crisscrosstech.com/usbca

E-mail: 75203.1411@compuserve.com

Richard McStraw, President

Jay Leventhal, Secretary, (718) 275-2209

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To actively encourage and assist in the promotion and advancement of correspondence and over-the-board chess for blind or visually impaired persons.

Publications: Challenger (quarterly magazine on cassette).

Vision Council of America: Better Vision Institute (VCA/BVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 500

Alexandria, VA 22314

Tel: (703) 548-4560

(703) 548-4580 (Fax)

(877) 642-3253 (Toll-Free)

www.visionsite.org/s_vision/

E-mail: vca@visionsite.org

Bill Thomas, Executive Vice-President/CEO

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides vision health information for people of all ages, information on the importance of purchasing quality eyewear from a reputable dealer and the latest fashion trends.

Professional Training: Offers an array of resources to eye care professionals, including materials which teach professionals how to dispense eyewear. Helps eye care professionals do business better by providing them with important information about their customers and their industry.

Vision World Wide (VWW)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center

5707 Brockton Drive, Suite 302

Indianapolis, IN 46220-5481

Tel: (317) 254-1332

(317) 251-6588 (Fax)

www.visionww.org

E-mail: visionworldwide@yahoo.com

Patricia L. Price, President and Managing Editor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1995.

Mission: To provide medical information and emotional encouragement to the visually impaired and their families and serve as a communication link between the vision-impaired and their caregiving community. To enlighten the general public about issues, trends and treatment related to vision loss, and to serve as a consumer protection organization.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-2:00 PM.

Accessibility: No brick and mortar facility. Services provided by Internet and by telephone.

Staff: 2. Two full-time volunteers serve as staff. Other volunteers assist periodically.

Fee structure: No fees charged.

Publications: Vision Enhancement on web only. Free of charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides advice and consultative support to professionals serving blind and low vision individuals and family members.

Counseling: Provides counseling support to individuals with vision loss and to family members. Offers counseling for seniors on vision loss adjustment, coping skills, and locating available resources.

Employment: Offers career and skill counseling.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services on many topics relevant to vision loss. Disseminates information for free through an information and referral toll-free helpline, web site, vision e-news Internet list, information packets and direct mail answers to specific inquiries, free of charge.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling, information and referral for parents.

Alabama

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation
Services

(800) 441-7607

Alabama Department of Senior Services
(877) 425-2243

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation
Services

(800) 441-7607

Educational Services

Alabama State Department of Education
(800) 392-8020

Instructional Materials Center

Alabama Library and Resource Center for the
Blind and Physically Handicapped
(800) 848-4722

Rehabilitation Services

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation
Services

(800) 441-7607

School for the Blind

Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind
(256) 761-3259

Southwest Alabama Regional School for the
Deaf and Blind
(251) 221-5454

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Alabama Library and Resource Center for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Alabama Regional Library for the Blind and Visually
Handicapped (NLS)

Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Houston-Love Memorial Library (NLS)

Huntsville Subregional Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County
(NLS)

Tuscaloosa Subregional Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped, Tuscaloosa Public Library
(NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Liz Moore Low Vision Center

UAB Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Alabama Academy of Ophthalmology

Alabama Optometric Association

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Alabama at Birmingham: Department of
Leadership, Special Education and Foundations

Radio Reading Stations

Alabama Radio Reading Service Network

WTSU Radio Reading Service

WUAL Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Easter Seals Central Alabama
Mobile Association for the Blind
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern
Blind Rehabilitation Center
Workshops, Inc.

Schools for the Blind

Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind

Southwest Alabama Regional School for the Deaf and Blind

State Technology Programs

Alabama Statewide Technology Access and Response (STAR) System

Alabama Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 130238
Montgomery, AL 35213
Tel: (334) 391-1967
(205) 592-3537 (Fax)
www.aleyemd.com/
E-mail: jmm0071@charter.net
Mike Merrill, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.
County/District where located: Montgomery County.
Geographic area served: Alabama.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Publications: Monthly newsletter.

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- Part C early intervention agency
- State rehabilitation services

2129 East South Boulevard
Montgomery, AL 36116-2455
Tel: (800) 441-7607
(334) 281-8780
(334) 281-1973 (Fax)
www.rehab.state.al.us
E-mail: webinfo@rehab.state.al.us
Steve Shivers, Commissioner,
sshivers@rehab.state.al.us
James A. Carden, Assistant Commissioner, Blind and
Deaf Services, (334) 613-3444 (Fax),
jcarden@rehab.state.al.us
Rita Houston, Project Director, Older Blind Alabamians
System of Information and Services, (334) 613-3444
(Fax), rhouston@rehab.state.al.us

Elizabeth D. Prince, Part C Coordinator, (334) 613-3543,
(334) 613-3541 (Fax), bdprince@rehab.state.al.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable Alabama's children and adults with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential.

Geographic area served: Alabama.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses and evaluates infants or toddlers referred to Child Fund.

Community Outreach Programs: Child Find identifies infants and toddlers who may be eligible for services.

Counseling: OASIS Program develops local support groups to encourage older adults who are losing their vision to share information and support others who are adjusting to vision loss.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Alabama's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Provides intervention support and services for infants and toddlers and their families.

Employment: Provides specialized employment-related services and training to help students and adults with disabilities become employed.

Information and Referral: Provides public education and awareness regarding services for people who are blind.

Parent Assistance: Has a statewide resource directory to assist families and community providers locate resources for infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in the use of adaptive equipment and techniques for basic living skills such as low vision skills, communication skills, use of assistive technology, personal and home management, and adaptive leisure time activities. Administers OASIS Program (Older Alabamians System of Information and Services), which assists visually impaired persons 55 and older to live independently in their homes.

Alabama Department of Senior Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

770 Washington Avenue
 RSA Plaza Suite 470
 Montgomery, AL 36130-1851
 Tel: (877) 425-2243
 (334) 242-5743
 (334) 242-5594 (Fax)
 www.adss.state.al.us
 E-mail: ageline@adss.state.al.us

Irene Collins, Executive Director,
 icollins@adss.state.al.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To secure and maintain independence and dignity of older persons; remove social and individual barriers; assure the provision of a continuum of care for the vulnerable elderly; and develop comprehensive, coordinated systems for older persons.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Alabama.

Eligibility requirements: Age 55+ or state Medicaid eligible and nursing home eligible.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible at most sites.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Fee structure: No fees. Contributions accepted.

Publications: Aging in Alabama, various insurance guides.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Transportation Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Employment: Provides part-time employment opportunities to low-income individuals age 55 and over.

In-Home Services: Provides home- and community-based services to individuals age 60 and over, including such services as meals, nutrition assistance, transportation, information and referral, legal assistance, recreation, and in-home services. Home-based services are provided to individuals who qualify for Medicaid and who qualify for nursing home admission.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

205 East South Street
 Talladega, AL 35160
 Tel: (256) 761-3259
 (256) 761-3362 (Fax)
 www.aidb.org/

Carl W. Ponder, Principal, Alabama School for the Blind, ponder.carl@aidb.state.al.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired, mentally retarded, deaf-blind, deaf, and orthopedically disabled persons.

Established: 1867.

Geographic area served: Alabama.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available for students.

Fee structure: Free to Alabama residents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Loans equipment, like braillewriters and tape recorders, to help students learn alternate communication skills.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Through the Instructional Resource Center, purchases or produces textbooks, workbooks, maps and other educational resources in braille or large print for students from kindergarten through high school who are blind or visually impaired throughout the state of Alabama.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach primarily through the 8 regional centers.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to schools as needed, demonstrating, lending, and setting up adaptive equipment.

Counseling: Psychologists work with parents, teachers, houseparents, administrators, and outside consultants to help children.

Early Intervention: Operates PIP (Parent and Infant Preschool Program) and Kinderprep programs both on main campus and in regional centers.

Education Services: Offers K-12 curriculum, general academic, vocational/skill development through the Alabama School for the Blind and for children who are deaf-blind or multiply handicapped through the Helen Keller School of Alabama.

Employment: Operates the E.H. Gentry Technical Facility, a 2-year technical school for sensory impaired adults (most of whom have been referred by the

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services). Includes an Employment Services Department. Pathways project makes handcrafted furniture for sale in retail stores. Industries for the Blind, primarily a sheltered workshop, employs many graduates of the Gentry facility.

Health/Medical: Offers regular dental care, ear-nose-throat clinics, orthopedic clinics and even a seizure clinic held by a pediatric neurologist, in addition to other services as needed through the Office of Health, Evaluation and Outreach.

Library: Maintains the Library and Instructional Resource Center for the Blind, which serves K-12 students who are blind or visually impaired and their teachers across the state and clients of AIDB Regional Centers and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. Also a Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, administering the federal lending program for qualifying residents of Coosa, Talladega and St. Clair Counties.

Low Vision: Offers clinics, assessments and technical assistance, including getting prescriptions for eyeglasses filled. Offers vision screenings, counseling, and referrals for seniors through the Elderaction outreach program. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling and instruction for parents.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training for those working with older people who are hard of hearing and vision impaired.

Recreation: Offers the Special Equestrians Program and many other recreational facilities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening skills, typing, computer keyboarding skills, home management, remedial education, sensory training. Maintains the Hackney Play Therapy Center.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Auburn: Auburn Regional Center, 650 N. College Street, Auburn, AL 36830

Birmingham: Birmingham Regional Center, 220 34th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35222

Dothan: Dothan Regional Center, 111 Medical Drive, Dothan, AL 36303

Huntsville: Huntsville Regional Center, 600 St. Clair Avenue, Building 2, Huntsville, AL 35801

Mobile: Mobile Regional Center, 1050 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36604

Montgomery: Montgomery Regional Center, 2629-B Eastern Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

Tuscaloosa: Tuscaloosa Regional Center, 701 22nd Avenue, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Tuscumbia: The Shoals Regional Center, 512 North Main Street, Tuscumbia, AL 35674

Alabama Library and Resource Center for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- National Library Service library

Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind

705 South Street

Talladega, AL 35161

Tel: (800) 848-4722

(256) 761-3287

(256) 761-3561 (Fax)

www.aidb.org/aidb/irc.asp

Teresa Lacy, Librarian, lacy.teresa@aidb.state.al.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides braille and large-print books, materials and other services to all blind and visually impaired students in Alabama.

Library: Administers the federal lending program for qualifying residents of Coosa, Talladega and St. Clair Counties.

Alabama Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

400 South Union Street, Suite 435

Montgomery, AL 36104

Tel: (334) 834-1057

(334) 834-1691 (Fax)

www.eyesite-aloa.org

E-mail: optometry@mindspring.com

Amanda Jones, Executive Director,

amandajones@mindspring.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the profession of optometry through professional development, education and public policy advocacy.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Speakers bureau provides qualified optometrists to speak on a variety of topics in the field of eye care and eye safety.

Alabama Radio Reading Service Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Radio reading station

650 11th Street South

Birmingham, AL 35294

Tel: (800) 444-9246

(205) 934-6576

(205) 934-5075 (Fax)
 www.wbhm.org
 E-mail: info@wbhm.org

Philip Habeeb, ARRS Manager, philip@wbhm.org
 Mike Morgan, General Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Alabama.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Provides radio reading service via WBHM-Birmingham. Newspapers read include the Birmingham News, Birmingham Post-Herald.

Alabama Regional Library for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (APLS/BPH)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

6030 Monticello Drive
 Montgomery, AL 36130-6000
 Tel: (800) 392-5671 (Voice mail available after hours for messages.)

(334) 213-3906

(334) 213-3900 (TDD/TTY) (Located in BPH)

(334) 213-3993 (Fax) (Located in the APLS Administration Office)

www.apls.state.al.us/webpages/services/services/BPH/BPHservices

E-mail: fzaleski@apls.state.al.us

Fara L. Zaleski, Librarian, fzaleski@apls.state.al.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide recreational reading and basic information materials to qualified library patrons who cannot use standard print materials.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Montgomery.

Geographic area served: Alabama.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Budget: \$397,481.

Clients served annually: 5000.

Staff: 6. Regional librarian (1), reader advisors (3), clerks (1), warehouse workers (1).

Publications: WHAT'S LINE (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: APLS/BPH is part of the National Library Service network system and a division within the Alabama Public Library Service, the state library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides information on related organizations and agencies.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Alabama State Department of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

50 North Ripley Street

P.O. Box 302101

Montgomery, AL 36130

Tel: (800) 392-8020 (Toll-free in Alabama)

(334) 242-8114

(334) 242-8406 (TDD/TTY)

(334) 242-9192 (Fax)

www.alsde.edu

Joseph Morton, Superintendent, jmorton@alsde.edu.

Mabrey Whetstone, Special Education Services, speced@alsde.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Alabama.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Oversees the provision of free appropriate public education for students ages 3-21 who meet state eligibility requirements.

Alabama Statewide Technology Access and Response (STAR) System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

2125 East South Boulevard

Montgomery, AL 36120-0752

Tel: (800) 782-7656 (In Alabama only)

(334) 613-3480

(334) 613-3519 (TDD/TTY)

(334) 613-3485 (Fax)

www.rehab.state.al.us/star

Theodore E. Bridges, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance independence, productivity and quality of life for all Alabamians with disabilities through access to assistive technology devices and services.

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Assists individuals with disabilities in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. Provides short-term loans of assistive technology to persons with disabilities who wish to try out different types of devices. Provides equipment loans to rehabilitation professionals so they can better assess and evaluate persons with disabilities using technology.

Financial Assistance: Provides an alternative source of financing to help individuals with disabilities, or their families, purchase adaptive equipment and services through a low-interest, extended-term loan program.

Information and Referral: Provides information about assistive technology products, services, resources, suppliers, and funding. Provides an introduction to disabilities and assistive technology as well as training on how to be sensitive to the needs of persons with disabilities.

Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Houston-Love Memorial Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

P.O. Box 1369

Dothan, AL 36302

Tel: (334) 793-9767 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(334) 793-6645 (Fax)

www.houstonlovelibrary.org/

Myrtis Merrow, Librarian, mmerrow@yahoo.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Houston County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sun. 1:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Easter Seals Central Alabama (ESCA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

2125 East South Boulevard

Montgomery, AL 36116-2454

Tel: (334) 288-0240

(334) 288-7171 (Fax)

www.carc2125.homestead.com/

E-mail: ljohnson@eastersealsca.org

J. Larry Johnson, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality life enhancing programs and services to meet the individual needs of our consumers.

Established: 1961.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Montgomery, Elmore, Autauga, Macon, Lowndes, Crenshaw, Pike, Barbour, Conecuh, Coosa, Butler Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Must have sponsorship.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Administers psychological tests and evaluation and provides individual and group counseling.

Education Services: Provides tutor services for grades 1 through 12. Accepts deaf-blind, emotionally disturbed, learning disabled, mentally retarded, orthopedically handicapped, all other multiply handicapped. Offers general academic, college preparatory, and high school equivalency programs.

Health/Medical: Provides therapy for hearing impaired individuals.

Professional Training: Does internship/fieldwork placement in industrial arts, rehabilitation counseling, and physical, speech and occupational therapy. Offers in-service training programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and orientation and mobility skills. Offers remedial education, and occupational, physical and speech therapy.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

Huntsville Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

915 Monroe Street SW

Huntsville, AL 35801

Tel: (256) 532-5980

(256) 532-5994 (Fax)

www.hpl.lib.al.us/departments/bph/

E-mail: bphdept@hpl.lib.al.us

Joyce Welch, Head Librarian, (256) 532-5981,

bphdept@hpl.lib.al.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide everyone access to library materials and programs delivered by a courteous and informed staff.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Madison County.

Geographic area served: Madison County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Ground-level entry, elevators, accessible bathrooms, accessible computer software, braille printer.

Staff: Uses volunteers in addition to staff.

Fee structure: Free.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

108 East Tenth Street
Anniston, AL 36201

Tel: (256) 237-8501

(256) 238-0474 (Fax)

www.anniston.lib.al.us/bandph.htm

E-mail: bandph@anniston.lib.al.us

Deenie M. Culver, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Calhoun County.

Geographic area served: Calhoun County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 5 to 96.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Budget: \$40,000.

Clients served annually: 255.

Staff: 1.5.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape, large print).

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Liz Moore Low Vision Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

50 Medical Park Drive East

Birmingham, AL 35235

Tel: (205) 838-3162

(205) 838-3515 (Fax)

www.medicalcentereast.com/index.php?id=56

Madelyn Jones, Director, mcjones@ehs-inc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist the person with low vision to use functional vision to the utmost capacity.

Established: 1991.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment, blindness and/or referral from physicians, social workers, or rehabilitation agencies.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 8 part-time.

Publications: Brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers evaluation by a team of professionals.

Computer Training: Database software, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, magnifiers; low vision devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Collaborates with local agencies.

Counseling: Refers for counseling, social work. Assists with classes and referrals for living skills training.

Information and Referral: Offers referrals to agencies for supplemental assistance such as talking books, radio reading, vocational rehabilitation or other community resources.

Library: Maintains a video library available for check-out.

Low Vision: Provides training in the use of low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Provides parent training, family education, community education.

Recreation: Operates the Golf School for the Visually Impaired, providing golf instruction and course play throughout the year for all ages.

Rehabilitation: Provides services through Outpatient Occupational Therapy.

Support Groups: Holds monthly support group meetings.

Mobile Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2440 Gordon Smith Drive

Mobile, AL 36617

Tel: (877) 292-5463

(251) 473-3585 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(251) 470-8622 (Fax)

www.mobileblind.org

James Bullock, Executive Director,
jbullock@mobileblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: Mobile County.

Geographic area served: Southwest Alabama.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provides speakers to address local service organizations to inform them about available services to the handicapped and to identify those in need of such services.

Employment: Provides pre-employment preparation, sheltered workshop, and job placement for people who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, or have other disabilities. Sells products manufactured in workshops.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to state agencies and community resources.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in vocational rehabilitation and orientation and mobility skills.

Southwest Alabama Regional School for the Deaf and Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

3980 Burma Road

Mobile, AL 36693-4522

Tel: (251) 221-5454

(251) 221-5454 (TDD/TTY)

(251) 221-5455 (Fax)

Mary Lou Casey, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind, and learning disabled persons.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Mobile County.

Geographic area served: Mobile County public schools. Baldwin, Clarke, Escambia, Washington Counties in southwest Alabama.

Eligibility requirements: Public school student, resident of Mobile, Baldwin, Clarke, Washington or Escambia Counties.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-3:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Public funds.

Staff: Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, career and vocational materials.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to other agencies.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation, placement in school, training. Has counselor on staff.

Early Intervention: Offers services for children from birth to 5 as referred by state plan.

Education Services: Provides instruction for Grades K through 12 and offers programs for college preparatory, general academic, and remedial education. Provides some home-based student services. Accepts students who are deaf-blind, emotionally disturbed, and learning disabled.

Employment: Offers prevocational evaluations, career and skill counseling. Contracts for other employment services. Provides consultation to other agencies.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to other services.

Library: Maintains a library of talking books, braille, and large-print materials. Magazines also available in alternative formats.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service training programs; open to enrollment from other agencies.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, gesticulation, handwriting, typing, video magnifier, home management, remedial education, sensory training.

Tuscaloosa Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Tuscaloosa Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

1801 Jack Warner Parkway

Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Tel: (800) 548-2547 (This is not a local TDD but a statewide relay system that allows the deaf to talk with anyone in the state.)

(205) 345-3994

(800) 548-2546 (TDD/TTY)

(205) 752-8300 (Fax)

www.tuscaloosa-library.org

Barbara B. Jordan, Librarian,

bjordan@tuscaloosa-library.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Tuscaloosa County.

Geographic area served: Tuscaloosa County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical limitations that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 5 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 200.

Staff: 1 full-time librarian; 1 part-time library assistant.

Fee structure: Free.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

UAB Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

1720 University Boulevard

Suite 380

Birmingham, AL 35233

Tel: (205) 488-0736

(205) 934-0911 (Fax)

Marsha Swanson, Physician

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive eye care services for patients, to train eye care providers through education, and to advance eye care knowledge through innovation and research.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: No geographical restrictions.

Eligibility requirements: No eligibility restrictions.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: By appointment.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: Optometrists, ophthalmologist, optometric technicians.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Health/Medical, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides vision screenings for all ages.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Early Intervention: Provides eye examinations and low vision evaluations of children from birth to age 3.

Health/Medical: Performs eye examinations and offers medical management services. Administers comprehensive eye examinations (outpatient clinic) and nursing home visits for the elderly.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to state, federal and local agencies serving persons with vision impairment.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

University of Alabama at Birmingham: Department of Leadership, Special Education and Foundations

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Postsecondary institution**

Education Building, Room 2321

UAB Campus

Birmingham, AL 35294

Tel: (205) 934-3440

(205) 934-6722 (Fax)

[www.main.uab.edu/soed/](http://www.main.uab.edu/soed/show.asp?durki=67611&site=2609&return=53008)

[show.asp?durki=67611&site=2609&return=53008](http://www.main.uab.edu/soed/show.asp?durki=67611&site=2609&return=53008)

Mary J. Sanspree, Research Professor, Special Education, (205) 934-6723, msanspree@icare.opt.uab.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a university program for a graduate degree or certification in visual impairments. An alternative fifth-year degree is offered for persons without a bachelor's degree in education.

Established: 1960.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Alabama, but accepts out-of-state or international students.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

Funded by: Foundation grants, Lions Clubs, public funds, state funds.

Fee structure: Tuition-based.

Publications: Pamphlets.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Training for instructors.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to local education agencies. Interactive teleconferencing available statewide.

Personnel Preparation: Master's degree program, post-master's certificate program, post-bachelor (fifth year) program in areas of blindness/visual disability.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

VA Medical Center
700 South 19th Street
Birmingham, AL 35233
Tel: (205) 558-4706

George Sands, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists in making an emotional and behavioral adjustment to blindness through individual counseling sessions and group therapy meetings.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers a variety of skill courses designed to help blinded veterans achieve a realistic level of independence. These skill areas include orientation and mobility, communication skills, activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social/recreational activities.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: West Palm Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Florida.

Workshops, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4244 Third Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35222

Tel: (888) 805-9683

(205) 592-9683

(205) 592-8006 (TDD/TTY)

(205) 592-9687 (Fax)

www.workshopsinc.com

E-mail: email@workshopsinc.com

Shan Graham, Program Manager/Job Development

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide vocational training, sheltered employment, and other support services to people with disabilities in central Alabama, enabling them to achieve their potential for self-sufficiency.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Central Alabama.

Eligibility requirements: Age 16 or older, free of behavior harmful to self or others, available third-party funding.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Excellent. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 400.

Staff: 40.

Fee structure: None for clients, daily fee for vocational rehabilitation.

Publications: Life Skills for Vocational Success (book).

Additional information: Public transportation available at main campus. Organization provides transportation in Shelby County. Workshops, Inc. is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides skills assessment.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers vocational personal counseling.

Education Services: 10th-12th grades only.

Employment: Provides employment counseling.

Rehabilitation: Provides sheltered employment and training in work adjustment, job skills, job-seeking skills, job development/placement. Specializes in services to people who need hands-on approach.

LOCAL OFFICES

Pelham: 240 Commerce Parkway, Pelham, AL 35124,
anyone@workshopsinc.com

WTSU Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Radio reading station**

252 Montgomery Street
Suite 312

Montgomery, AL 36104

Tel: (334) 241-9574

(334) 241-5465 (Fax)

www.wtsu.troy.edu

Joanne Jacobs, Public Affairs Coordinator,
jacobs@troyst.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide local, state, and national news, entertainment and special programs for people who are blind or print impaired or who have physical impairments that prevent them from reading.

Established: 1997.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: 50-mile radius of Montgomery, Alabama.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Staff: Volunteer readers.

Publications: Radio reading service brochure.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts state and local news, sports, weather, comics, feature articles. Special radio receiver available from Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

WUAL Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Radio reading station**

166 Phifer Annex

Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0370

Tel: (800) 654-4262

(205) 348-6644

(205) 348-6648 (Fax)

www.apr.org

E-mail: wual@apr.org

Kathryn B. Henslee, Development Director,
khenslee@apr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Tuscaloosa County.

Geographic area served: West Alabama.

Eligibility requirements: Referral by Subregional Library for the Blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Private donations.

Staff: About 25 rotating volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours a day. Local news broadcast 2:00 PM-4:00 PM. Newspapers read include the Tuscaloosa News, Pickens County Herald, Daily Mountain Eagle, Centreville Press, Greensboro Watchman.

Alaska

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Alaska Commission on Aging
(907) 465-3250

Alaska Department of Labor: Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation
(800) 478-2815

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Alaska Department of Health and Social
Services: Early Intervention Program
(800) 799-7570

Educational Services

Alaska Department of Education and Early
Development
(907) 465-2972

Instructional Materials Center

Special Education Services Agency
(907) 562-7372

Rehabilitation Services

Alaska Department of Labor: Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation, Blind Services
(800) 478-4378

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Educational Agencies

Special Education Services Agency

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Special Education Services Agency

Libraries

Alaska State Library Talking Book Center (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Alaska Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Alaska Optometric Physicians Association

Radio Reading Stations

Alaska Information Radio Reading and Education
Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Alaska Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

State Technology Programs

Alaska Assistive Technology Program

Alaska Assistive Technology Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

3600 Bragaw
Anchorage, AK 99508
Tel: (800) 478-4467
(907) 207-2073
(907) 269-3570 (TDD/TTY)
(907) 269-3632 (Fax)
www.labor.state.ak.us/at/index.htm
Kent Ireton, Program Coordinator,
kent_ireton@labor.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure all Alaskans have the assistive technology and related services needed to live, work and participate in their community.
Established: 1990.

Alaska Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic ■ Rehabilitation agency

3903 Taft Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517-3069
Tel: (800) 770-7517 (In Alaska only)
(907) 248-7770
(907) 248-7517 (Fax)
www.alaskabvi.org/
E-mail: info@alaskabvi.org
Karla L. Jutzi, Executive Director, info@AlaskaBVI.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To equip Alaskans who are blind and visually impaired with skills for success in life and work. ACBVI envisions an Alaska where people are accepted for who they are and not judged based on their eyesight.

Established: 1976.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone experiencing a vision loss that interferes with daily living.

Ages served: 3 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM for classes. Special weeklong programs designed from transitional youth and elderly.

Accessibility: Accessible bedroom, wheelchair accessible accommodations. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 12 beds maximum for residential students.

Budget: \$700,000.

Clients served annually: 180 - 200.

Staff: 10. Degreed staff: a certified O&M specialist, a low vision therapist, an artist/woodworker, Culinary Arts Institute graduate. Three BVI.

Fee structure: \$85 an hour per center-based instructional class, \$30 per night residential for students. Low vision assessments \$200.

Publications: Newsletter, various handouts provided for training and other presentations to groups.

Additional information: ACBVI is adding to a web-based distance education program to deliver instruction in assistive technology to rural Alaska. ACBVI has a customer service course designed for the BVI, a Braille in the Schools project to support equipment and other technology in rural school districts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Computer Training, Employment, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Web site accessibility assessment, worksite assessment; assessment of mobility, dexterity, daily living skills, braille, assistive technology.

Assistive Products: Sells visual devices and appliances. Products are available for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers presentations to community, groups, agencies.

Computer Training: Offers center-based and distance education in the use of common software applications as well as screen readers and magnifiers. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Employment: Customer Service course as well as regular instruction to increase employability of those who are blind or visually impaired.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to various community resources.

Low Vision: Provides low vision assessment and follow-up to determine remaining sight. Recommends and supplies low vision devices. Special clinics include an examination by an optometrist followed by a complete low vision assessment.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers support groups for families.

Recreation: Offers activities to assist in rehabilitation and reintegration of blind individuals to society.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent travel, braille reading/writing, personal and financial management, home management, assistive technology (computers and other forms of communication) communications, and manual skills.

Support Groups: Offers center-based support groups as well as in senior centers and assisted living facilities for BVI individuals as well as family members and others.

Alaska Commission on Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

150 Third Street, #103
Juneau, AK 99811-0693
Tel: (907) 465-3250
(907) 465-1398 (Fax)
www.alaskaaging.org/

Linda Gohl, Executive Director,
linda_gohl@health.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the dignity and independence of senior Alaskans, and to assist them in leading useful and meaningful lives.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on local services and programs for seniors.

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

801 West Tenth Street, Suite 200
Juneau, AK 99801-1894
Tel: (907) 465-2972
(907) 465-3396 (Fax)
www.eed.state.ak.us/

Roger Sampson, Commissioner,
roger_sampson@eed.state.ak.us
Art Arnold, State Director of Special Education, (907)
465-2806 (Fax), Art_Arnold@eed.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure quality standards-based instruction to improve academic achievement for all students.

Established: 1966.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers special education programs.

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services: Early Intervention Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

3601 C Street, Suite 978
Anchorage, AK 99524
Tel: (800) 799-7570
(907) 269-3423
(907) 269-3465 (Fax)
www.health.hss.state.ak.us/ocs/infantlearning

Jane Atuk, Part C Early Intervention Coordinator,
jane_atuk@health.state.ak.us
Karen Martinek, Program Manager, VISIT (Vision Impaired Services for Infants & Toddlers),
karen_martinek@health.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support Alaska's women, infants, children, and families to achieve their best possible health and well-being.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Eligibility requirements: Developmental delay or diagnosed disability.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Fee structure: Sliding fee scale applied only to billable occupational therapy, physical therapy, SLP services.

Additional information: The Alaska state Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program funds a statewide itinerant consulting program for blind and visually impaired children, under the age of three, and their families. Current grantee information is available at www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/mcfh/.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to early intervention providers. Monitors program to assure compliance with state and federal regulations and standards.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Alaska's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Funds an itinerant consulting program for blind and visually impaired children, birth-3 years, and their families.

Parent Assistance: Works with local early intervention programs to develop appropriate Individualized Family Service Plans.

Professional Training: Provides training and consultation to local providers and families.

Alaska Department of Labor: Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

801 West Tenth Avenue, Suite A
Juneau, AK 99801

Tel: (800) 478-2815 (In-state only.)
 (907) 465-2814
 (907) 465-2856 (Fax)
www.labor.state.ak.us/dvr/home.htm
 E-mail: anne_knight@labor.state.ak.us
 Velja Elstead, Project Director, Independent Living
 Services, Velja_Elstead@labor.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Alaska.
Ages served: 16 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Funded by: Public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.
Rehabilitation: Provides independent living services for older adults.

Alaska Department of Labor: Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Blind Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State rehabilitation services

1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 101
 Anchorage, AK 99504-2096
 Tel: (800) 478-4378
 (907) 269-3570 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (800) 478-4378 (TDD/TTY)
 (907) 269-3570 (TDD/TTY)
 (907) 269-3632 (Fax)
www.labor.state.ak.us/dvr/blsvs.htm
 E-mail: kent_ireton@labor.state.ak.us
 Gale Sinnott, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation, (907) 465-2814, (907) 465-2856 (Fax),
gale_sinnott@labor.state.ak.us
 Russ Cusack, Chief of Rehabilitation Services,
russell_cusack@labor.state.ak.us
 Velja Elstad, Community Resource Specialist & Older
 Blind Grant Administrator, (907) 465-6932, (907)
 465-2856 (Fax), velja_elstad@labor.state.ak.us
 Kent Ireton, Program Coordinator, Blind Services, (907)
 269-2073, kent_ireton@labor.state.ak.us
 Nelida Irvine, Business Enterprise Program
 Coordinator, (907) 269-3568,
nelida_irvine@labor.state.ak.us
 Chantile Stovall, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor -
 Anchorage Area, (907) 269-2077,
chantile_stovall@labor.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals with disabilities overcome barriers to employment, independence, and community life.
County/District where located: Anchorage.

Geographic area served: Statewide Alaska with offices in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Sitka, Kodiak, Wasilla, Eagle River, Kenai, and Bethel.

Eligibility requirements: Must have a mental or physical disability that creates a substantial impediment to employment.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: All offices are accessible.

Clients served annually: Approximately 300 blind and visually impaired persons.

Staff: Approximately 9 full-time employees for Blind Services. Statewide Program Coordinator, Business Enterprise Coordinator, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors and Counselor Assistants, Specialists and Fiscal staff.

Fee structure: No fees in general. Cost sharing by other resources is utilized to maximum extent. Consumer must meet financial need criteria in order to qualify for financial assistance on most services. Evaluation, guidance and counseling, work adjustment and on-the-job training services are provided regardless of financial need.

Additional information: The Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is a combined federal/state program under the authority of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. It is a vocational rehabilitation agency that offers specific programs and services for people who are blind and visually impaired through a coordinated service delivery system statewide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides referrals and funding for appropriate and necessary diagnostic and assessment resources.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides assistance with adjustment to disability, blindness, or visual impairment with an emphasis on self-empowerment and informed consumer choice.

Employment: Offers vocational evaluation, on-the-job training, vocational training, and academic training. Provides job-seeking and job-placement services. The Alaska Business Enterprise Program provides individuals who are blind with priority to run food service establishments in federal facilities and blind and severely handicapped with the priority to run food service establishments in state facilities.

Financial Assistance: Offers funding for medical services necessary for vision restoration or stabilization when no other resources or coverage are available.

Low Vision: Provides referrals for evaluation and financial assistance with purchase.

Orientation and Mobility: Provided through contract service providers.

Rehabilitation: Offers statewide services to assist those who are blind or visually impaired and age 55 and older through contract service providers.

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Juneau: Juneau Central Office, 801 W. 10th Street, Suite A, Juneau, AK 99801

LOCAL OFFICES

Anchorage: Counseling and Evaluation Center, 3600 South Bragaw, Anchorage, AK 99508

Fairbanks: 751 Old Richardson Highway, Suite 102, Fairbanks, AK 99701

Juneau: 10002 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801-8033

Kenai: 145 Main Street Loop, Suite 143, Kenai, AK 99611-7755

Ketchikan: 2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite 220-A, Ketchikan, AK 99901

Kodiak: 305 Center Street, Suite 5, Kodiak, AK 99615

Sitka: 700 Katlian, Suite F, Sitka, AK 99835

Wasilla: 901 Commercial Drive, Wasilla, AK 99654-6938

SPECIAL OFFICES

Anchorage: Blind Services Unit, 1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 101, Anchorage, AK 99504-2096, kent_ireton@labor.state.ak.us

Alaska Information Radio Reading and Education Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1102 West International Airport Road
Anchorage, AK 99518

Tel: (907) 563-2121

(907) 562-5951 (Fax)

www.airres.net

E-mail: airres@gci.net

Allen Sanderson, Executive Director, airres@gci.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1986.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Eligibility requirements: Visually, physically or learning disabled.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts recorded or live material to eligible listeners.

Alaska Optometric Physicians Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1689 C Street, Suite 222

Anchorage, AK 99501

Tel: (877) 693-2562

(907) 770-3777

(907) 272-7532 (Fax)

www.ako.org

E-mail: akoa@alaska.com

Maynard Falconer, Executive Director,
ako.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fulfill the vision and eye care needs of the public through clinical care and education, and to examine, diagnose, treat, and manage diseases and disorders of the visual system, the eye and associated structures as well as diagnose related systemic conditions.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 5 hours daily.

Accessibility: Accessible by elevator.

Funded by: Private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Administers Vision USA. Provides diabetes assessments and visual screening for preschool children.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals through main office for members and patients.

Low Vision: Refers to appropriate ODs.

Alaska State Library Talking Book Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

344 West Third Avenue, Suite 125

Anchorage, AK 99501

Tel: (800) 776-6566

(907) 269-6575 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(907) 269-6580 (Fax)

www.library.state.ak.us/dev/tbc.html

E-mail: aslanc@eed.state.ak.us

Patience Frederiksen, Librarian,

patience_frederiksen@eed.state.ak.us

Beverly Griffin, Library Assistant, Education,

beverly_griffin@eed.state.ak.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Municipality of Anchorage.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print are eligible for library service.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: The Talking Book Center is completely accessible to library patrons.

Clients served annually: 1,100.

Staff: Staff consists of a .25 full-time librarian, a full-time library assistant, and a full-time clerk.

Fee structure: Library services are provided free of charge to Alaskan patrons who are eligible.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Northwest Region Office (HKNC)

See Washington.

Special Education Services Agency

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Educational agency
- Infant/preschool agency
- Instructional materials center (state-designated)

2217 East Tudor Road

Suite 1

Anchorage, AK 99507

Tel: (907) 562-7372

(907) 563-8284 (TDD/TTY)

(907) 562-0545 (Fax)

www.sesa.org

E-mail: sesa@sesa.org

Nancy Nagarkar, Program Administrator,

nnagarkar@sesa.org

Brenda Jager, Specialist for Blind and Visually

Impaired, School Age, bjager@sesa.org

Julie Smith, Project Coordinator, VISIT: Visual

Impairment Services for Infants and Toddlers,

jsmith@sesa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind and legally blind persons.

Established: 1986.

Geographic area served: Alaska.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, with or without additional disabilities. Must be referred by district Special Education Director.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: SESA Newsletter (bi-annual).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance, training, and consultation to school districts with students who are visually impaired.

Education Services: Provides instruction in all developmental areas, parent and teacher training, and consultant services to other programs. Accepts deaf-blind, mentally challenged, other multiply disabled students, ages 3-21. Offers a special blind program, college preparation, academic, vocational and skills development programs. Itinerant staff delivers on-site services statewide to local districts. Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Alaska.

Employment: Provides career and skills counseling, consultation to other agencies, and pre-vocational evaluation. Refers for other employment services.

Library: Maintains a library of books, videos, software, assessments, journals, equipment.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides parent training, parent-infant education.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living; braille; handwriting; typing; use of assistive technology such as video magnifiers, Optacon, electronic mobility aids; home management; sensory training; rehabilitation teaching in student's home and community; sensory training.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center (VAPSHCS-American Lake BRC)

See Washington.

Arizona

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Arizona Department of Economic Security:
Aging and Adult Administration
(800) 432-4040

Arizona Department of Economic Security:
Rehabilitation Services Administration
(800) 563-1221

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Arizona Department of Economic Security:
Arizona Early Intervention Program
(888) 439-5609

Educational Services

Arizona Department of Education:
Exceptional Student Services
(602) 542-4013

Instructional Materials Center

Arizona Instructional Resource Center
(603) 331-1470

Rehabilitation Services

Arizona Department of Economic Security:
Rehabilitation Services Administration
(800) 563-1221

School for the Blind

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the
Blind
(520) 770-3824

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Dog Guide Schools

Eye Dog Foundation for the Blind

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Foundation for Blind Children

Information/Referral Centers

Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Prevent Blindness America: Arizona Division

Libraries

Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records,
Braille and Talking Book Division (NLS)
Phoenix Public Library: Special Needs Center

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Foundation for Blind Children

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Arizona Ophthalmological Society
Arizona Optometric Association

National Organizations

Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation &
Education Professionals

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Arizona: College of Education, Special
Education, Rehabilitation, and School Psychology

Radio Reading Stations

Sun Sounds of Arizona

Rehabilitation Agencies

Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Arizona Industries for the Blind
Foundation for Blind Children

Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired
(formerly DBA Tucson Association for the Blind &
Visually Impaired)

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
Yuma Center for the Visually Impaired

Schools for the Blind

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
Foundation for Blind Children

Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

3100 East Roosevelt Street

Phoenix, AZ 85008

Tel: (602) 273-7411

(602) 273-7410 (Fax)

www.acbvi.org

E-mail: info@acbvi.org

James M. La May, Executive Director, jlamay@acbvi.org

Stan Dyser, Assistive Technology Coordinator,

sdyser@acbvi.org

Diana Miladin, Director, Communications and

Development, dmiladin@acbvi.org

Starlene Stewart, Information Technology Specialist,

sstewart@acbvi.org

Diana Sussman, Social Worker, Intake/Information and

Referral, dsussman@acbvi.org

Frank Vance, Director, Rehabilitation Services,

fvance@acbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independence, dignity, and full participation at home, at work, and in the community. To educate the general public regarding the capabilities and needs of individuals who are blind and visually impaired. To facilitate acceptance of individuals who are blind and visually impaired throughout society, while working toward equalization of opportunity.
Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Maricopa County.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, 18 years and older.

Ages served: 18 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

State Technology Programs

Arizona Technology Access Program

Accessibility: Accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 2500.

Staff: 16. Internships in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, counseling, social work, physical therapy, occupational therapy.

Fee structure: No fees for rehabilitation services, membership fee for social recreation (sliding).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells canes and a limited supply of aids and devices.

Community Outreach Programs: Educates the general public regarding blindness and visual impairment.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Offers training in the use of voice recognition software and the Internet.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Can be arranged on a fee-for-service basis.

Counseling: Provides counseling.

Employment: Provides vocational rehabilitation through state contract.

Health/Medical: Offers diabetes education.

Information and Referral: Provides centralized intake.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Internships available.

Recreation: Provides social recreation.

Rehabilitation: Fulfills all major rehabilitation needs.

Arizona Department of Economic Security: Aging and Adult Administration

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State unit on aging

1789 W. Jefferson, Site Code 950A-2SW

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tel: (800) 432-4040

(602) 542-4446

(602) 542-6575 (Fax)

www.azdes.gov/aaa

Henry Blanco, Program Director, hblanco@azdes.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support and enhance the ability of at-risk and older adults to meet their needs to the maximum extent of their ability, choice, and benefit.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

**Arizona Department of Economic Security:
Arizona Early Intervention Program**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Part C early intervention agency**

3839 North Third Street, Suite 304

Phoenix, AZ 85012

Tel: (888) 439-5609 (Arizona only)

(602) 532-9960

(602) 200-9820 (Fax)

www.azdes.gov /azeip

E-mail: AllAzEIP2@mail.de.state.az.us

Molly K. Dries, Executive Director and Part C

Coordinator, allazeip2@azdes.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Arizona's early intervention system as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Assists in the development and implementation of a comprehensive and coordinated service delivery system for developmentally delayed infants and toddlers and their families.

**Arizona Department of Economic Security:
Rehabilitation Services Administration**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Independent living program**

■ **State rehabilitation services**

1789 West Jefferson Street, 930A

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tel: (800) 563-1221 (Arizona only)

(602) 542-6289

(520) 628-6864 (TDD/TTY)

(602) 542-3778 (Fax)

www.azdes.gov /rsa/blind.asp

E-mail: EHouse@azdes.gov

Ed House, Manager, Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, ehouse@azdes.gov

Joan Ellis, Supervisor, Rehabilitation Instructional Services, JEllis@azdes.gov

Karen King, Project Specialist, KKing@azdes.gov

Richard Monaco, General Manager, Arizona Industries for the Blind, RMonaco@azdes.gov

Otis Stevenson, Program Manager, Business

Enterprises Program, OStevenson@azdes.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower individuals with disabilities to achieve increased independence and/or gainful employment through the provision of quality services. Established: 1973.

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Eligibility requirements: Varies with individual program.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Arizona does not operate a residential program. Arizona does allow clients to choose form of adjustment services received, which may be a residential program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Employment: Operates the State Vocational Rehabilitation, the State Business Enterprises Program, and the Arizona Industries for the Blind.

Health/Medical: Operates sight conservation program which provides eye examinations and eyeglasses for low-income persons.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training within vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching and orientation and adjustment to blindness within the vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Flagstaff: RSA Region III Office, 1510 S. Riordan Ranch Street, Room 200, 928-779-4147, Flagstaff, AZ 85001

Phoenix: RSA Region I Office, 3221 N. 16th Street, Suite 200, 602-266-6752, Phoenix, AZ 86016

Phoenix: RSA Region IV Office, Gila, Pinal, Yuma, and S.E. Maricopa Counties, 3221 N. 16th Street, Suite 200, 602-266-6752, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Tucson: RSA Region II Office, 400 West Congress, Suite 420, 520-628-6810, Tucson, AZ 85701

SPECIAL OFFICES

Phoenix: Arizona Industries for the Blind, 3013 West Lincoln Street, 602-269-5131, Phoenix, AZ 85009

Phoenix: Business Enterprises Program, 4620 North 16th Street, Room A206, 602-266-9070, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Phoenix: Rehabilitation Instructional Services, 4620 North 16th Street, Room A204, 602-266-9286, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Arizona Department of Education: Exceptional Student Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

1535 West Jefferson Street, Bin 24

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tel: (602) 542-4013

(602) 542-5404 (Fax)

www.ade.az.gov/ess

Steve Mishlove, Director of Special Programs,
Administration, (602) 542-3855, smishlo@ade.az.gov

Beverly Boyd, Director of Grants Management, (602)
364-1978, bboyd@ade.az.gov

Roberta Brown, Voucher Educational/Institutional
Coordinator, (602) 364-4006, (602) 364-0428 (Fax),
rbrown@ade.az.gov

Lynn J. Busenbark, Director of Program Support, (602)
542-4831, lbusenb@ade.az.gov

Wendy Collison, Transition Services Coordinator, (602)
364-4026, wcollis@ade.az.gov

Kacey Gregson, Director of Dispute Resolution, (602)
542-3084, (602) 364-0641 (Fax), kgregso@ade.az.gov

Rita Kenison, Parent Information Network (PINS) and
Parent are Liasions to Schools (PALS) Coordinator,
(602) 364-4015, rkeniso@ade.az.gov

Valerie Luks, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Coordinator,
(602) 364-1989, vluks@ade.az.gov

Joanne C. Phillips, Deputy Associate Superintendent,
(602) 542-5446, jphilli@ade.az.gov

Miriam Podrazik, Director, Comprehensive Systems of
Personnel Development (CSPD), (602) 364-4005,
mpodraz@ade.az.gov

Peggy Staples, Data Collection/Special Education
Census Coordinator, (602) 364-4024,
pstaple@ade.az.gov

Mary Urich, Recruitment and Retention Coordinator,
(602) 364-0378, murich@ade.az.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the development and implementation of extraordinary education through training, technical assistance, and monitoring so that students with disabilities reach higher levels of academic achievement, workplace skills, and effective participation in society.

County/District where located: Maricopa.

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Ages served: 0 to 22.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 AM-5:00 PM MT.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

Staff: 70. Education Program Specialists.

Publications: Please contact the ESS Reception Desk for assistance at (602)542 4013.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides customer service, technical assistance and consultation with regard to children with disabilities.

Early Intervention: Preschool Unit works with AzEIP (Arizona Early Intervention Program) for visually impaired infants and toddlers, birth to 3 years old.

Education Services: Promotes the achievement of individual student goals and, to the extent appropriate, state education standards.

Parent Assistance: Provides parents in the community the training and technical assistance they need to help service their children.

Professional Training: Comprehensive Systems Personnel Development (CSPD).

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Flagstaff: Flagstaff Office, 2717 North Fourth Street, Suite 190, Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Tucson: Tucson Office, 400 West Congress, Suite 241, Tucson, AZ 85701

Arizona Industries for the Blind (AIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3013 West Lincoln Street

Phoenix, AZ 85009

Tel: (800) 658-8689

(602) 269-5131

(602) 269-9462 (Fax)

www.azdes.gov/aib

E-mail: DanielMartinez@azdes.gov

Richard Monaco, General Manager,
rmonaco@azdes.gov

Daniel Martinez, Community Services Liaison,
DanielMartinez@azdes.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the opportunities for economic and personal independence of people who are blind through creating, sustaining and improving employment.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Maricopa County.

Eligibility requirements: Physically disabled adults (primarily legally blind).

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Additional information: AIB is a publicly operated enterprise.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers vocational and psychological assessment.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance in the use of adaptive computer technology.

Employment: Offers vocational/pre-vocational evaluation and training, work adjustment/experience, job development/placement, follow-up, industrial workshop.

Rehabilitation: Provides work adjustment, job placement and development.

LOCAL OFFICES

Phoenix: 3013 W. Lincoln Street, Phoenix, AZ 85009

Phoenix: 36 North 35th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85005

Arizona Instructional Resource Center (AIRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

Foundation for Blind Children

1235 E. Harmont Drive

Phoenix, AZ 85020

Tel: (603) 331-1470

www.the-fbc.org/mediaCenter/index.html

Ingeborg K. Durre, Coordinator, idurre@the-fbc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Arizona.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Textbooks and workbooks, recreational reading materials, or other adapted instructional materials and equipment such as maps, rulers, games, braille writers, special paper.

Education Services: Functions as the the state media center and library for all students in Arizona who are blind or have a visual impairment.

Arizona Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

810 West Bethany Home Road

Phoenix, AZ 85013

Tel: (800) 971-3937

(602) 242-6283 (Fax)

www.azeyemds.com

Patrice A. Hand, Executive Director,
patriceh@azmedassn.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as a source of educational, social, and ethical exchange for membership.

Established: 1985.

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Staff: 1 person.

Fee structure: Annual dues.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Apprises membership of news about optometry, seminars, educational and professional issues.

Arizona Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

1702 E. Highland, #213

Phoenix, AZ 85016

Tel: (602) 279-0055

(602) 264-6356 (Fax)

www.azoa.org

E-mail: info@azoa.org

Tom Determan, President, determanto@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote good vision in the state of Arizona.

Established: 1921.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees.

Publications: Focal Point (monthly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assistance provided to local community organizations.

Information and Referral: Offers referrals to optometrists in the state.

Professional Training: Provides continuing education for licensed optometrists.

Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, Braille and Talking Book Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

1030 North 32nd Street

Phoenix, AZ 85008

Tel: (800) 255-5578 (Arizona only)

(602) 255-5578

(602) 255-4312 (Fax)

www.lib.az.us/braille/

E-mail: btbl@lib.az.us

Linda A. Montgomery, Director, limontg@lib.az.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books, magazines and other library resources in alternate formats for all Arizona residents whose visual or physical disabilities prevent the use of conventional print materials.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Clients served annually: 11,000.

Staff: 22.

Publications: Talking Book News (quarterly).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1200 West Speedway Boulevard

Tucson, AZ 85745

Tel: (520) 770-3824

(520) 770-3711 (Fax)

www.asdb.state.az.us

Doris S. Woltman, Superintendent,

dwoltman@asdb.state.az.us

Earlene Dykes, Director, Instructional Support Services,

Technical Assistance to Schools, (520) 770-3863,

edykes@asdb.state.az.us

Susan Greer, Supervisor, Visually Impaired

Preschool-Tucson, (520) 770-3002, (520) 770-3010

(Fax), sgreer@asdb.state.az.us

Sharon Lunger, Director, Career and Technical

Technology, (520) 770-3661, slunger@asdb.state.az.us

Peg McCullough, Librarian, pmccullough@asdb.org

Cindi Robinson, Project Specialist, AZ DeafBlind

Project, crobinson@asdb.state.az.us

Jan Smith, Low Vision Specialist, jans@asdb.state.az.us

Dave Tamminga, Director, Information and

Technology, (520) 770-3404,

dtamminga@asdb.state.az.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage excellence in education for all children and youths with hearing or vision loss throughout Arizona and to foster productive partnerships with families, school districts, communities and others that will enable children and youths with hearing or vision loss to succeed now and in the future.

Established: 1912.

County/District where located: Pima County.

Geographic area served: Arizona.

Eligibility requirements: Students with visual impairments whose needs cannot be met in a district program.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Office: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, braille signage.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Provides 24-hour residential program to students outside of day transportation area. All students within 125 miles travel home each weekend. All students return home during designated school break periods.

Fee structure: No fee for public school students residing in Arizona. Out-of-state students accepted on tuition basis.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Developmental transdisciplinary assessments available.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to identify eligible students who might profit from services offered.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, LAN/WAN, video conferencing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to preschool programs serving visually impaired children and other agencies for employment services.

Counseling: Offers parent education and support groups. Performs psychological testing and evaluation. Provides individual and group counseling. Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work.

Education Services: Offers the following programs: grades K-12, college preparatory, general academic, vocational skill development.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other employment services.

Information and Referral: Provides information about education of deaf and blind in Arizona. Refers to appropriate services.

Library: Maintains a library with services for use by blind/visually impaired.

Low Vision: Offers low vision and initial ophthalmological examinations. Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides parent education and counseling.

Preschool: Offers all aspects of infant, toddler, and preschool activities with disability-specific emphasis.
Professional Training: Provides internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, special education. Offers regular in-service training programs open to enrollment from other agencies.

Reading Services: Provides radio reading of the Arizona Daily Star.

Recreation: Offers clubs, outdoor education program, swimming, chorus, football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, track and field, Special Olympics.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in visual development, auditory/sensory, and independent living skills. Assigns rehabilitation counselor to students from State Blind Services as a part of Individual Transition Plan beginning at age 14.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Flagstaff: North Central Regional Cooperative (NCR), 1000 East Butler Avenue, Suite 115, Flagstaff, AZ 86001, Jane Krahe, Regional Director

Lakeside: Eastern Highlands Regional Cooperative (EHR), 1621 West White Mountain Road, Suite 6, Lakeside, AZ 85929, Jane Krahe, Acting Regional Director

Phoenix: Desert Valleys Regional Cooperative (DVR), 8055 N. 24th Avenue, Suite 103, Phoenix, AZ 85021, Bea Van Mantgem, Regional Director

Tucson: Southeast Regional Cooperative (SER), 1601 West Anklam Road, Tucson, AZ 85754, Patricia Jimenez, Regional Director

Yuma: Southwest Regional Cooperative (SWR), 1763 West 24th Street, Suite 102, Yuma, AZ 85364, Gail Carter, Regional Director

Arizona Technology Access Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Institute for Human Development
 Northern Arizona University
 4105 N. 20th Street, Suite 260
 Phoenix, AZ 85016
 Tel: (800) 477-9921
 (602) 728-9534
 (602) 728-9536 (TDD/TTY)
 (602) 728-9535 (Fax)
www.nau.edu/ihd/aztap
 Jill Oberstein, Director, jill.oberstein@nau.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase access to assistive technology devices and services for individuals with disabilities and their families, and facilitate the development of a consumer-responsive AT service delivery system.

Established: 1994.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Works with consumers, service providers, state agencies, private industry, legislators, and other interested individuals to facilitate the development of a statewide system to provide assistive technology services.

Eye Dog Foundation for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

8252 S. 15th Avenue
 Phoenix, AZ 85041-7806
 Tel: (800) 393-3641
 (661) 831-1333
 (661) 831-0681 (Fax)
www.eyedogfoundation.org
 E-mail: eyedog@eyedogfoundation.org

Lequita J. McKay, Executive Director, Bakersfield Division

Scott Heywood, Director of Training, Arizona Division, (602) 276-1046 (Fax), eyedogaz@uswest.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To train dog guides and educate blind persons in the use of dog guides.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Kern County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Blind and capable of handling a dog guide.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Student dormitory available.

Funded by: Private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides counseling for students who need help with dog guides.

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Foundation for Blind Children (FBC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

■ School for the blind

1235 East Harmont Drive
 Phoenix, AZ 85020-3864
 Tel: (602) 331-1470

(602) 678-5819 (Fax)

www.the-fbc.org

E-mail: info@the-fbc.org

Chris Tompkins, Executive Director, (602) 678-5803

(Fax), ctompkins@the-fbc.org

Elaine Baldridge, Director of Program Services

Darcy Hostetler, Job Developer

Rich Kenney, Community Relations Coordinator, (602)

678-5803 (Fax), rkenney@the-fbc.org

Jeanette Manley, Family Counselor

Kim Parrott, Director of Development, (602) 678-5803

(Fax), kparrott@the-fbc.org

Diane Pena, Coordinator, Infant Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a comprehensive system of services which will optimize the blind or visually impaired child's development and consequent opportunities to learn to lead a meaningful and productive life, including education, counseling, media, and technology services to blind and visually impaired children, adults, and their families.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Maricopa County(Phoenix metropolitan area), and the state of Arizona.

Eligibility requirements: Any child or adult with a vision loss.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Saturdays: 9:00 AM-2:00 PM.

Accessibility: Meets ADA standards. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Students who attend our Independent Living Program during the summer live in off-campus apartments.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Clients served annually: 2100.

Staff: 110. Approximately 300 volunteers.

Publications: Three agency informational brochures, an annual report and the quarterly Foundation Focus newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides adapted materials to its student clientele to help facilitate learning in the classroom, whether it be braille or large print textbooks and workbooks, recreational reading materials, or other adapted instructional materials and equipment.

Community Outreach Programs: Sets up outreach (satellite) programs with school districts as needed.

Counseling: Provides counseling and financial assistance to parents of children who are blind or visually impaired and counseling for young and school-age children and their families.

Early Intervention: Works with the blind or low vision child and family in both home and classroom. Has a 12-month, home-based program for infants from birth to 3 years.

Education Services: Maintains the Arizona Instructional Resource Center, the state-designated depository for instructional materials for public and private schools.

Employment: Provides job development and job training.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment, genetic counseling, low vision exams, immunizations, blood tests, and other health services on referral basis. Contracts for audiology, physical, occupational and speech therapy for young children.

Library: Maintains state media and library center for all students in Arizona who are blind or visually impaired, providing braille, large-print text, workbooks, recreational reading materials, or other adapted instructional materials and equipment.

Low Vision: Offers vision rehabilitation services to individuals of all ages with vision impairment.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Holds weekly meetings, in-home visits, and family support workshops 1-2 times a year.

Preschool: Operates cooperative preschool classes for blind and visually impaired and multiply disabled blind persons. Has a home-based program with center component for infants, classrooms with home teaching component for infants and toddlers who are visually impaired, multiply disabled, or deaf-blind. Provides consultation to preschools when children are placed out of the center.

Professional Training: Offers internships/fieldwork in special education/visually impaired and regular in-service training programs.

Recreation: Offers summer programs for blind and multiply disabled preschoolers and for school-age children.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching and training in communications skills. Conducts summer independent living program, pre-vocational counseling.

LOCAL OFFICES

Chandler: 2005 N. 91st Place, Chandler, AZ 85224

Glendale: 6805 N. 81st Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85303

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southwest Region Office (HKNC)

See California.

Phoenix Public Library: Special Needs Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

1221 North Central Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85004

Tel: (602) 261-8690

(602) 254-8205 (TDD/TTY)

(602) 534-4520 (Fax)

www.phxlib.org

E-mail: specialneeds@phxlib.org

Mimi McCain, Special Needs Center Supervisor,

specialneeds@phxlib.org

Jim Norman, Library Assistant,

specialneeds@phxlib.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information and library services for blind and visually impaired persons and persons with disabilities.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Maricopa County.

Eligibility requirements: Maricopa County residents with disabilities.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Fri.-Sat. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM, Sun. 12:00 PM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: The Special Byte (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Maintains a full range of assistive technology at the Assistive Technology Center. Individualized instruction available by appointment.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Library: Provides library, readers advisory, and reference services.

Prevent Blindness America: Arizona Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

21620 N 19th Avenue, Suite A-4

Phoenix, AZ 85027

Tel: (623) 879-7465

(623) 879-7466 (Fax)

www.pbaaz.org

E-mail: info@pbaaz.org

Sandy Ferris, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Established: 1995.

County/District where located: Maricopa.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health, and eye safety.

Library: Maintains full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired (formerly DBA Tucson Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired) (SAAVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3767 East Grant Road

Tucson, AZ 85716

Tel: (520) 795-1331

(520) 795-1336 (Fax)

www.saavi.us

E-mail: reception@saavi.us or dlong@saavi.us

Mimi Marsh, Director of Rehabilitation

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide dynamic and progressive programs and services to meet the rehabilitation and social needs of individuals with vision loss, to encourage individuals to become active participants in determining their success, and to raise public awareness through community involvement and establishment of partnerships with others.

Established: 1964.

County/District where located: Pima County.

Geographic area served: Southern Arizona.

Eligibility requirements: Blindness or visual impairment.

Ages served: 18 to 110.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, special evening and weekend activities.

Accessibility: The facility and all programs are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Staff: 34. 20 full-time, 14 part-time, extensive use of volunteers.

Additional information: SAAVI is a private, nonprofit independent living center.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Counseling: Offers social evaluations, group and individual counseling, social work.

Education Services: Provides a scholarship program for visually impaired postsecondary students.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers limited center-based programs and services directed toward participation in community activities.

Rehabilitation: Offers classes and training to promote emotional adjustment, consumer education and advocacy, and independent living skills. Provides group and individual training in home and personal management skills, cooking, handwriting, and in the use of adaptive aids. Runs a mentor program, counseling, outreach and referrals to community resources, rehabilitation, adjustment and employment services for developmentally disabled persons. Offers some social/recreational programs, job development, employment and technology services.

Sun Sounds of Arizona

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

2323 W. 14th St

Tempe, AZ 85281

Tel: (480) 774-8300

(480) 774-8310 (Fax)

www.sunsounds.org

E-mail: info@sunsounds.org

Bill Pasco, Director, bill.pasco@riomail.maricopa.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide audio access to information and knowledge normally published in a printed format; to enlighten, entertain and educate thousands of people in Arizona who cannot read because they have a visual, physical or learning disability.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: Arizona through radio broadcasts and worldwide through Internet access to our audio stream.

Eligibility requirements: Any person who cannot read the printed word due to visual, physical or learning disability.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Clients served annually: 32,000.

Staff: 7 full-time, 10 part-time.

Fee structure: Services are provided free of charge and is a non-duplicated statewide service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Broadcasts 124 audio programs weekly, some subject-focused feature articles from multiple publications. Publications read include the Arizona Republic, The Wall Street Journal, Christian Science Monitor, USA Today. Catalogs also read. Sun Sounds can also be accessed via a dial-up service called Sun Dial. Sun Dial brings access on demand to printed and textual information for people who cannot read conventional print because of visual impairment or some other disability. Using a touch-tone telephone, an individual chooses from national or local newspapers, grocery ads, text-based web pages, and selects human voice or synthesized audio reading. Broadcasts and links to other printed publications can be accessed through our website.

LOCAL OFFICES

Flagstaff: 1300 South Milton, Suite 202, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Tucson: 7290 East Broadway, Suite K, Tucson, AZ 85710

University of Arizona: College of Education, Special Education, Rehabilitation, and School Psychology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

P.O. Box 210069

Tucson, AZ 85721-0069

Tel: (520) 621-7822

(520) 621-3821 (Fax)

www.ed.arizona.edu/

E-mail: sergrad@mail.ed.arizona.edu

Jane N. Erin, Coordinator, Graduate Study in Special Education of Students with Visual Impairments, jerin@u.arizona.edu

Penny Rosenblum, Adjunct Assistant Professor, (520) 621-1223, rosenblu@u.arizona.edu

Ian Stewart, Orientation and Mobility Coordinator, (520) 621-3887, istewart@u.arizona.edu

Irene Topor, Adjunct Associate Professor, (520) 626-3863, ilt@u.arizona.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the empowerment of individuals with disabilities and special abilities across the age span.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Master's degrees in rehabilitation teaching, special education, rehabilitation, and school psychology and certification in visual impairments and orientation and mobility.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
3601 South Sixth Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85723
Tel: (520) 629-4643
(520) 629-4642 (Fax)
E-mail: ronald.arlt@med.va.gov
Ronald A. Arlt, Clinical Director,
ronald.arlt@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive individualized rehabilitation services, conduct research for the benefit of blinded veterans, provide educational opportunities and promote awareness.

Established: 1994.

County/District where located: Pima County.

Geographic area served: Southwestern United States of America.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind veteran.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM. The facility is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: In accordance with federal guidelines. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

Budget: \$224,000.

Clients served annually: 370.

Staff: 60.

Fee structure: In accordance with Department of Veterans Affairs Eligibility Guidelines.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training, Counseling, Health/Medical, Information and Referral, Library Services, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach through Visual Impairment Services Teams located at local DVA facilities.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides counseling and specialized services to veterans attending the program, family and peer counseling, and community integration support.

Health/Medical: Provides medical and eye care.

Information and Referral: Provides awareness training and referral services.

Library: Maintains a library and talking book service.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Provides recreational services to program participants.

Rehabilitation: Provides residential services to visually impaired veterans of all ages, including assessments, evaluations, and training in the skills of daily living, low vision, orientation and mobility, manual skills and computer access. Also issues aids and appliances that are deemed necessary for people who are the blind. Provides blind rehabilitation training in a residential facility.

Yuma Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2770 Avenue B
Yuma, AZ 85364
Tel: (928) 726-1310
(928) 783-3261 (Fax)
www.eruditio.asu.edu/~tgillil/sw/ycvi.htm
E-mail: cdjrob@c2i2.com
Calvin D. Roberts, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To mainstream visually impaired persons back into community activities.

Established: 1974.

Geographic area served: City of Yuma.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, assessment referral required.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: 24-hour phone availability.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Lions Clubs, private donations, United Way.

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Activities include trips, arts and crafts, concerts, sport activities, shopping, and others.

Rehabilitation: Activities focus on mainstreaming individuals into the community.

Arkansas

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Arkansas Department of Human Services:
Division of Aging and Adult Services
(501) 682-2441

Arkansas Department of Human Services:
Division of Services for the Blind
(800) 960-9270

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Arkansas Department of Human Services:
Developmental Disabilities Services
(501) 682-8665

Educational Services

Arkansas Department of Education: Special
Education Department
(501) 682-4221

Instructional Materials Center

Arkansas School for the Blind
(800) 362-4451

Rehabilitation Services

Arkansas Department of Human Services:
Division of Services for the Blind
(800) 960-9270

School for the Blind

Arkansas School for the Blind
(800) 362-4451

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Arkansas Department of Correction: Wrightsville
Braille and Large Print Project

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Arkansas School for the Blind

Information/Referral Centers

Arkansas Department of Human Services: Division of
Services for the Blind

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Arkansas State Library (NLS)
Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Columbia County Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences:
Department of Ophthalmology

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Arkansas Ophthalmological Society
Arkansas Optometric Association

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Arkansas at Little Rock: Department of
Counseling, Adult and Rehabilitation Education

Radio Reading Stations

Arkansas Department of Human Services: Division of
Services for the Blind
Arkansas Radio Reading Service for the Blind

Rehabilitation Agencies

Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind
 Easter Seals Arkansas
 Lions World Services for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Arkansas School for the Blind

**Arkansas Department of Correction:
 Wrightsville Braille and Large Print Project**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Alternate media producer**

P.O. Box 1000
 Wrightsville, AR 72183
 Tel: (501) 897-5806
 (501) 897-5716 (Fax)
 Kay Howell, Warden, kay.howell@arkansas.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide high quality adaptive books for and improve the quality of life of the visually impaired at an inexpensive cost to the state.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Arkansas.

Staff: The staff consists of state prison inmates overseen by a corrections department supervisor.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks.

**Arkansas Department of Education: Special
 Education Department**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **State educational services**

1401 West Capitol
 Victory Building
 Suite 450
 Little Rock, AR 72201
 Tel: (501) 682-4221
 (501) 682-4313 (Fax)
 www.arkedu.state.ar.us

Marcia Harding, Associate Director, Special Education Services, mharding@arkedu.k12.ar.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to multiply disabled and visually impaired individuals.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Arkansas.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that potentially affects education.

State Technology Programs

Arkansas Increasing Capabilities Access Network

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to local school districts.

Counseling: Provides family support services and consultation.

Early Intervention: Provides home intervention.

Education Services: Provides statewide educational services for visually impaired students in Arkansas.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers 4-week summer program for public school students on Arkansas School for the Blind campus.

Rehabilitation: Provides speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and training in the use of adaptive equipment.

**Arkansas Department of Human Services:
 Developmental Disabilities Services**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Part C early intervention agency**

Donaghey Plaza North
 108 East Seventh Street
 Slot # N 501
 Little Rock, AR 72201
 Tel: (501) 682-8665
 (501) 682-1332 (TDD/TTY)
 (501) 682-8380 (Fax)
 www.state.ar.us/dhs/dds

Charlie Green, Director

Sherrill Archer, Developmental Services Supervisor and Part C Coordinator, (501) 682-8699, (501) 682-8890 (Fax), sherrill.archer@mail.state.ar.us

James Hayden, Assistant Director, james.hayden@arkansas.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide, within available resources, quality services which enable people to maximize their potential and enhance human dignity and worth.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Arkansas.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Does evaluations.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Arkansas' Early Intervention System as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Parent Assistance: Provides family support, consultation and referrals.

**Arkansas Department of Human Services:
Division of Aging and Adult Services**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State unit on aging**

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S 530

Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

Tel: (501) 682-2441

(501) 682-8155 (Fax)

www.accessarkansas.org/dhs/aging/index.html

Herb Sanderson, Director,

Herb.Sanderson@arkansas.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: 60 years and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services. Provides services for visually impaired and legally blind individuals aged 60 and above.

**Arkansas Department of Human Services:
Division of Services for the Blind (DSB)**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Independent living program**

■ **Information/referral center**

■ **Radio reading station**

■ **State rehabilitation services**

700 Main Street, Slot 101

P.O. Box 3237

Little Rock, AR 72203-3237

Tel: (800) 960-9270 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(501) 682-5463 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(800) 960-9270 (TDD/TTY)

(501) 682-0093 (TDD/TTY)

(501) 682-0366 (Fax)

www.state.ar.us/dhs/dsb/index.html

James C. Hudson, Director/Division of Services for the Blind, jim.hudson@arkansas.gov.

Dorothy W. Brooks, Training Coordinator/Statewide DSB, (501) 682-0199, dorothy.brooks@arkansas.gov.

Mary Cabaniss, Chief Fiscal Officer/Statewide-DSB, (501) 682-0367, mary.cabaniss@arkansas.gov

Charlie Cain, Braillest/Volunteer

Coordinator/Statewide-DSB, (501) 682-0198, charlie.cain@arkansas.gov

Mary Douglas, VR Counselor/DSB Statewide Office, (501) 682-0329, mary.douglas@arkansas.gov.

Donna Hartzell, Project Director, Independent Living Program, (501) 682-0326, donna.hartzell@arkansas.gov

Randy Johnson, Arkansas Radio Reading Service; Statewide/Conway office, (501) 852-5125, (800) 645-8125 (Fax), arkansas_blindnet@prodigy.net

Lyndel Lybarger, Field Services Program Administrator/DSB Statewide, (501) 682-0324, lyndel.lybarger@arkansas.gov.

Kara Mahan, Area Supervisor/Statewide Field Office, (501) 682-0330, kara.mahan@arkansas.gov.

Katy Morris, Assistant Director/Division of Services for the Blind (DSB), (501) 682-0361, katy.morris@arkansas.gov.

Lisa Murphy, VR Counselor, Statewide Local Office, (501) 682-0352, lisa.murphy@arkansas.gov

Jim Pearson, Administrator/Business & Technology, (501) 682-0350, (501) 682-0359 (Fax), jim.pearson@arkansas.gov

Dwight Turner, VR Counselor, Statewide Office, (501) 682-0347, dwight.turner@arkansas.gov.

Tanya VanHouten, VR Counselor, Statewide DSB Office, (501) 682-0338, tanya.vanHouten@arkansas.gov.

Larry Wayland, Sensory Aids Specialist/DSB Statewide, (501) 603-3504, larry.wayland@arkansas.gov.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to achieve employment and/or independence.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or severely visually impaired.

Ages served: 14 to 55.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: All facilities are accessible.

Budget: \$5,800,000.

Clients served annually: 2,300-2,500.

Staff: 60-65 full-time and 3 part-time employees. Uses volunteers. 12 vocational rehabilitation counselors (5 CRC), 8 rehabilitation teachers (5 certified-ACVREP); rehabilitation assistants, administrative support staff, vending facility staff, rehabilitation technicians and a certified braillist.

Publications: A Guide To Assisting A Blind Person (PUB-296); DSB Agency Brochure (PUB-386).

Additional information: DSB provides services for age 55+ for the Older Blind & VR Services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, braille access systems.

Counseling: Provides counseling and referral services.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, vocational training, job retention and job retraining, sheltered workshops, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending stand training. The Vending Facility Program (VFP) Services are available to eligible blind persons who are interested in and have the necessary skills to manage snack bars throughout the state. VFP locates the sales site, equips and stocks the facility initially, maintains the equipment and provides oversight and record keeping.

Health/Medical: Provides evaluation of eye health, treatment of eye conditions, prescription of spectacles or devices, low vision services, audiology therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internships and supervised field placements in rehabilitation counseling, orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching and social work.

Reading Services: Arkansas Radio Reading Services for the Blind broadcasts reading of local and national newspapers and magazines daily over special television or radio channels to provide independent access to current information for print-handicapped individuals. For information, call Radio Reading Services for the Blind Network at (501) 852-5125 or (800) 645-8125 (outside Little Rock); Telephone Reader: Conway (501) 852-5127, Little Rock (501) 683-2005, Fax (501) 852-5126.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, communication, home management, and sensory skills. Offers remedial education in client's home and community. Oversees state independent living program.

LOCAL OFFICES

Batesville: 100 Weaver Avenue, Batesville, AR 72501-7314, Tisha Marzewski, VR Counselor

El Dorado: 123 West 18th Street, El Dorado, AR 71730-4669, Lou Talley, VR Counselor, lou.talley@arkansas.gov.

Fayetteville: 4044 Frontage Road, Fayetteville, AR 72703-5182

Fort Smith: 616 Garrison Building, Room 224, Fort Smith, AR 72901, Tina Shores, Ft. Smith Local Office, tina.shores@arkansas.gov.

Harrison: 2126 Capps Road, P. O. Box 1096, Harrison, AR 72601-1096, Tina Shelby, VR Counselor, tina.shelby@arkansas.gov.

Jonesboro: 2920 McCellan Drive, Room 1106, Jonesboro, AR 77401-7293, Bob Lamb, VR Counselor

Pine Bluff: 1222 West 6th Street, P.O. Box 5670, Pine Bluff, AR 71611-5670, Darryl Lorenz, VR Counselor, darryl.lorenz@arkansas.gov.

Texarkana: 3809 Airport Plaza, Texarkana, AR 71854-1529, Helen Cunningham, VR Counselor, helen.cunningham@arkansas.gov.

Arkansas Increasing Capabilities Access Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State technology program**

Arkansas Department of Workforce Education
Arkansas Rehabilitation Services
2201 Brookwood Drive, Suite 117
Little Rock, AR 72202

Tel: (800) 828-2799 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state only)

(501) 666-8868 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(501) 666-5319 (Fax)

www.arkansas-ican.org

Barry Vuletich, Project Director,
bmvetich@ars.state.ar.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1989.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Offers a low-interest loan fund to help with the purchase of technology, including home modifications.

Information and Referral: Provides information as well as assistance in obtaining assistive technology.

Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

69th and Murray Streets
Little Rock, AR 72219

Tel: (501) 562-2222

(501) 568-5275 (Fax)

E-mail: arlighthouse@sbcglobal.net

Bill Johnson, Executive Director,
bjohnsonalb@sbcglobal.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1940.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Central Arkansas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.
Ages served: 21 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 6:45 AM-4:00 PM.
Accessibility: Fully accessible.
Staff: 8 full-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides industrial evaluation, training, and employment. Workshop sales.

Arkansas Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

10 Corporate Hill, #300
 Little Rock, AR 72205
 Tel: (501) 224-8967
 (501) 224-6489 (Fax)
www.arkeyemds.org/
 E-mail: mail@ArkEyeMDs.org
 Laura Harrison, Executive Director,
harrison@arkmed.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and advance the science and art of medical eye care.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Professional Training: Provides continuing medical education program for AOS members.

Arkansas Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

411 South Victory, Suite 202
 Little Rock, AR 72201
 Tel: (501) 661-7675
 (501) 661-1039 (Fax)
www.opticalinternet.com/aroa/
 E-mail: aropt@swbell.net

Barbara Martin, Executive Director
 Carissa Wagon, Administrative Assistant

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fulfill the vision and eye care needs of the public through clinical care, research, and education and to examine, diagnose, treat, and manage diseases and disorders of the visual system, the eye and associated structures as well as diagnose related systemic conditions.

Established: 1906.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Arkansas.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: The Arkansas Optometrist (bi-monthly newsletter).

Arkansas Radio Reading Service for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

2600 West Markham
 Little Rock, AR 72208
 Tel: (501) 663-4540
 (501) 663-4540 (Fax)
www.pages.prodigy.net/arkansas_blindnet/
 E-mail: arkansas_blindnet@prodigy.net
 Randy Johnson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: 50-mile radius from Little Rock, covering central Arkansas.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from various newspapers and magazines, In Touch Network, various programs. Publications include the New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Arkansas Democrat/Gazette, Baxter Bulletin (Mountain Home), Delta Democrat Times (Greenville Mississippi), El Dorado News Times Hot Springs Sentinel Record, Jonesboro Sun/Paragould Daily Press, Morning News of Northwest Arkansas (Springdale and Northwest AR), Pine Bluff Commercial, Russellville Courier, Texarkana Gazette. The Arkansas Telephone Reader reads the Arkansas Democrat/Gazette and the Arkansas Times by a combination of digitized and human speech. The reader can access individual stories by using a touch-tone telephone, allowing them to read what they want, when they want.

Arkansas School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Infant/preschool agency
- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- School for the blind

2600 West Markham
 Little Rock, AR 72205
 Tel: (800) 362-4451
 (501) 296-1810
 (501) 296-1833 (TDD/TTY)
 (501) 296-1831 (Fax)
www.arkansaschoolfortheblind.org/
 E-mail: khodge@asb.k12.ar.us
 Jim Hill, Superintendent, khodge@asb.k12.ar.us

James Caton, State Textbook Resource Center,
Educational Services for the Visually Impaired, (501)
663-3536 (Fax), jcaton@asb.k12.ar.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a quality education for children who are blind and visually impaired so they possess the required skills to become self-sufficient and productive citizens.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Arkansas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, Arkansas resident, ages 3 to 21.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Central Arkansas with transportation provided. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories, on-site apartments for independent living.

Clients served annually: 850.

Fee structure: No fees charged.

Additional information: Full academic program certified by the Arkansas Department of Education.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides weekly low vision clinic to public schools, preschool and residential students. (Other assessments by Arkansas School for the Blind on request.)

Education Services: Offers academic, concept and skills development programs, grades preschool through 12, and non-graded programs. Maintains depository-style educational materials center, which provides all braille/large-print textbooks statewide, and coordinates braille/large-print prison project.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending stand training. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Fitness: Provides diagnosis and evaluation of eye health, treatment of eye conditions, general medical services, speech therapy. Refers for other health services.

Library: Maintains library of talking book records and cassettes, braille books, large-print books, braille magazines, recorded magazines, and provides talking book machines, cassette players, Kurzweil reading machine.

Low Vision: Offers evaluation of eye treatment or prescription. Prescribes spectacles or devices and other low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides home intervention and assistance to centers and day care programs.

Preschool: Offers programs for academic, concept, and skills development.

Professional Training: Offers internships, technical assistance and in-service training programs, internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, local and statewide in-servicing annually.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, summer day camp, swimming, track, wrestling. Refers for other recreation services.

Rehabilitation: Offers physical and occupational therapy.

Easter Seals Arkansas

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3920 Woodland Heights Avenue

Little Rock, AR 72212-2495

Tel: (501) 227-3600

(501) 227-3601 (Fax)

www.ar.easterseals.com

Stephanie Smith, CFO

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides consultation and developmental assessments for at risk babies in hospital neonatal intensive care units across central Arkansas.

Employment: Enables adults with disabilities to be placed on job sites and trained with the aid of a job coach.

Preschool: Provides instruction for children with and without disabilities.

Recreation: Offers overnight summer camping programs for children with disabilities.

Rehabilitation: Provides evaluations and training for children and adults with disabilities in the use of computerized communication devices and other electronic devices. Provides living quarters and independent living skills training for adults with disabilities.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: South Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Texas.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Arkansas State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

One Capitol Mall

Little Rock, AR 72201-1085

Tel: (866) 660-0885 (Within the state of Arkansas only)

(501) 682-1155

(501) 682-1002 (TDD/TTY)

(501) 682-1529 (Fax)

www.asl.lib.ar.us/ark_lib_list.html#sb

E-mail: nlsbooks@asl.lib.ar.us

John J.D. Hall, Director, jhall@asl.lib.ar.us

Margie Lentz, LTA II, Applications & Equipment,
mlentz@asl.lib.ar.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a public library in recorded or braille format to anyone who, because of a visual, physical, or learning disability, cannot use regular print materials.

County/District where located: Pulaski.

Geographic area served: Arkansas.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Public funds, state funds.

Fee structure: Free service.

Additional information: NLS Regional library for the state of Arkansas.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Columbia County Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

220 East Main Street

Magnolia, AR 71754

Tel: (866) 234-8273

(870) 234-0399

(870) 234-5077 (Fax)

E-mail: lbph@hotmail.com

Susan Walker, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Columbia.

Geographic area served: Bradley, Calhoun, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Pike, Polk, Sevier, and Union Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Lions World Services for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2811 Fair Park Boulevard

Little Rock, AR 72204

Tel: (800) 248-0734

(501) 664-7100

(501) 664-2743 (Fax)

www.lwsb.org

E-mail: training@lwsb.org

Ramona Sangalli, CEO, training@lwsb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable people who are blind or visually impaired to function independently and live full, productive lives with dignity and self-respect, as well as to promote a positive public awareness of blindness.

Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory facilities with on-site cafeteria.

Budget: \$3,800,000.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 60. Ophthalmologist, low vision assistant, psychologist/counselor, rehabilitation counselor, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, special educator, psychiatrist, job skills instructors, job development/placement specialist.

Publications: New Life (quarterly newsletter), Update (bi-monthly information sheet).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, Health/Medical, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides counseling and referral services, psychological testing, and psychiatric evaluation.

Education Services: Offers remedial services, GED preparation.

Employment: Provides vocational evaluation, job readiness, vocational training in 15 areas, job development and placement and follow-up services.

Health/Medical: Refers for diagnosis and evaluation of eye condition. Prescribes lenses and low vision devices. Also refers for audiological services and occupational, physical, and speech therapy.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Professional Training: Offers internships and supervised field placements for rehabilitation counseling, orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, and social work students.

Recreation: Provides leisure time activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in communication skills, independent living skills, orientation and mobility, and adaptive technologies.

University of Arkansas at Little Rock: Department of Counseling, Adult and Rehabilitation Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Dept. of Counseling, Adult and Rehabilitation
Education

University of Arkansas at Little Rock

2801 South University Avenue

Little Rock, AR 72204

Tel: (501) 569-3169 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(501) 569-3169 (TDD/TTY)

(501) 569-8129 (Fax)

www.ualr.edu/rehdept/

E-mail: pbsmith@ualr.edu

Larry Dickerson, Rehabilitation Counseling, (501)
569-3428, lr dickerson@ualr.edu

William Jacobson, Orientation and Mobility Teaching,
(501) 569-8505, whjacobson@ualr.edu

Margaret Robinson, Teaching Students with Visual
Impairments, (501) 683-7088, (501) 569-8694 (Fax),
microbinson@ualr.edu

Patricia Smith, Rehabilitation Teaching,
pbsmith@ualr.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide graduate level coursework leading to master's degrees or certification in Rehabilitation Counseling (RC), Orientation & Mobility (O&M), Rehabilitation Teaching (RT) and Teaching Students with Visual Impairments (TSVI).

Eligibility requirements: Admission requirements are dependent upon the specific program.

Hours of operation: Online courses may be accessed 24/7. University office hours are Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM Central Time.

Accessibility: Campus and online course accessibility are provided. Students may receive services from Disability Support Services for both on-campus and online courses.

Fee structure: \$240 per credit hour for all students.

Additional information: The RC, O&M, and RT programs are offered online with on-campus workshops required for some of the courses. Some of the TSVI courses are offered online.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Offers master's degrees and certification coursework in rehabilitation teaching (RT), orientation and mobility (O&M), rehabilitation counseling (RC), and teaching students with visual impairments (TSVI). The RT, O&M, and RC programs are online with on-campus workshops required for some courses.

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences: Department of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

4301 West Markham

Little Rock, AR 72205

Tel: (501) 686-5822

(501) 686-8560 (Fax)

www.uams.edu/jei/home.htm

E-mail: simsjudyf@exchange.uams.edu

John P. Shock, Department Chairman, (501) 686-5152,
(501) 686-7037 (Fax), shockjohnp@uams.edu

Richard A. Harper, Low Vision, (501) 686-5150, (501)
686-7037 (Fax), harperricharda@uams.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide exemplary medical services, spanning primary through quaternary care by offering educational opportunities for medical students, residents, and fellows in an environment that fosters humanistic care and scholarly inquiry.

Established: 1879.

County/District where located: Pulaski County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral from ophthalmologist prior to low vision examination.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, low vision assistant, social worker.

Fee structure: Fee for service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Alabama.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Texas.

California

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

California Department of Aging
(800) 510-2020

California Department of Rehabilitation:
Blind Field Services
(916) 263-8953

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

California Department of Developmental
Services: Early Start
(916) 654-2773

Educational Services

California Department of Education: Special
Education Division
(800) 926-0648

Instructional Materials Center

California Department of Education:
Clearinghouse for Specialized Media and
Technology
(916) 445-5103

Rehabilitation Services

California Department of Rehabilitation:
Blind Field Services
(916) 263-8953

School for the Blind

California School for the Blind
(510) 794-3800

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Beach Cities Braille Guild
Bookshare.org
Braille Institute of America, Inc.
Braille Solutions
Braille Transcribers of Humboldt
Braille Transcribers Sacramento North Area
Braille Transcription Project of Santa Clara County
Contra Costa Braille Transcribers
Contra Costa Braille Transcribers
Describedmedia.com
Golden Gate Braille Transcribers
Library Reproduction Service
Monterey County Braille Transcribers
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Inland
Empire/Orange County Unit
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Los Angeles Unit
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Northern
California Unit
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Santa Barbara Unit
Sacramento Braille Transcribers, Inc.

San Bernardino Valley Lighthouse for the Blind
Sequoia Braille Transcribers
Transcribers of Orange County
Ventura County Braille Transcribers Association
Volunteers of Vacaville

Dog Guide Schools

Guide Dogs for the Blind
Guide Dogs of America
Guide Dogs of the Desert International

Educational Agencies

Castro Valley School District
Foundation for the Junior Blind of America
Santa Barbara Schools/High School Districts: Program
for Visually Impaired

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Blind Babies Foundation
Blind Children's Learning Center
Blind Childrens Center
Braille Institute of America, Inc.

Foundation for the Junior Blind of America
Hope Infant Family Support Program

Information/Referral Centers

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Southern California Office
Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office
National Association for Visually Handicapped
Prevent Blindness Northern California
WestEd Center for Prevention and Early Intervention

Libraries

Bookshare.org
Braille and Talking Book Library, California State Library (NLS)
Braille Institute Library Services (NLS)
Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, San Francisco Public Library (NLS)
Talking Book Library for the Blind, Fresno County Public Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Blind & Visually Impaired Center of Monterey County Inc
Braille Institute of America, Inc.
California Pacific Medical Center: Department of Ophthalmology with Low Vision Service
Center for the Partially Sighted
Doran Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Foundation for the Junior Blind of America
Jules Stein Eye Institute
National Association for Visually Handicapped
Optometric Center of Los Angeles, Low Vision Service
Peninsula Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
San Bernardino Valley Lighthouse for the Blind
Scripps Memorial Hospital: Mericos Eye Institute, Partial Vision Center
Southern California College of Optometry: Low Vision Rehabilitation Service at the Eye Care Center of Fullerton
St. Mary Low Vision Center
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center
University of California, San Francisco: Beckman Vision Center
University of California: School of Optometry, Low Vision Clinic
Veterans Affairs Medical Center: Eye Clinic

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses
California Academy of Ophthalmology
California Optometric Association
California Transcribers and Educators of the Visually Handicapped, Inc. (CTEVH)

National Organizations

American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)
American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
American Foundation for the Blind: National Employment Center
American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses
Eye Care America
Glaucoma Research Foundation
Helping Hands for the Blind
Institute for Families
National Association for Visually Handicapped
RP International
The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute: Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center

National Publishers

Audio Editions
Books Aloud
Braille Institute of America, Inc.
Kenneth Jernigan Library for Blind Children, American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults
Lutheran Braille Workers

Postsecondary Institutions

California State University, Los Angeles
California State University, Northridge: Students with Disabilities Resources
San Francisco State University: Department of Special Education

Radio Reading Stations

Audio Vision Radio
KPBS-FM Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Blind & Visually Impaired Center of Monterey County Inc.
Blindness Support Services, Inc.
Braille Institute of America, Inc.
Center for Living Independence for Multi-Handicapped Blind (CLIMB)
Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Center for the Partially Sighted
Community Center for the Blind
Desert Blind Association
Doran Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Earle Baum Center of the Blind
East Bay Center for the Blind
Foundation for the Junior Blind of America
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southwest Region Office
Intercommunity Blind Center
The Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Lions Blind Center of Diablo Valley
Lions Center for the Blind
Living Skills Center for the Visually Impaired
Palomar College Adapted Computer Training Center
Peninsula Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

San Bernardino Valley Lighthouse for the Blind
 San Diego Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired
 Santa Clara Valley Blind Center
 Sensory Access Foundation
 Society for the Blind
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind
 Rehabilitation Center
 Valley Center for the Blind

Research Organizations

The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute:
 Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center

American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Foundation for the Blind: National Employment Center (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses (ASORN)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Audio Editions

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Audio Vision Radio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

35242 Yucaipa Boulevard
 Suite C
 Yucaipa, CA 92399
 Tel: (909) 797-4336
www.freewebz.com/audiovisionavtom/
 E-mail: info@audiovisionradio.org
 Tom Rash, Station Director/Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make current printed material available to blind and print-handicapped individuals and others who have conditions that preclude them from reading, handling or comprehending the printed word.

County/District where located: San Bernardino County.

Southern California College of Optometry: Low Vision
 Rehabilitation Service at the Eye Care Center of
 Fullerton

Residential Facilities

Therapeutic Living Centers for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

California School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Community Center for the Blind
 Watts Health Care Corporation

State Technology Programs

California Assistive Technology Systems

Geographic area served: Portions of Riverside, Orange, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired or otherwise print-handicapped with approved application form.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Staff: 1 full-time, 1 part-time, 60 volunteer readers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours a day on subfrequency of KVCR-FM. Requires pre-tuned receiver available through Audio Vision Radio Reading Service. Publications read include the Los Angeles Times, San Bernardino Sun, and the Riverside Press Enterprise.

Beach Cities Braille Guild

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

P.O. Box 712
 Huntington Beach, CA 92648
 Tel: (714) 969-7992
 (714) 960-1815 (Fax)
 Linda McGovern, Assignments Chairperson,
lmcgbrl@earthlink.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe textbook, literary and recreational materials into braille as requested by blind individuals, resource and rehabilitation teachers, school districts and other agencies.

Established: 1976.

Geographic area served: Most of the English speaking world.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Private donations.

Staff: Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational, religious.

Counseling: Provides resource counseling for blind and visually impaired individuals.

Blind Babies Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

5016 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94112
Tel: (415) 586-6140
(408) 554-0671 (TDD/TTY)
(415) 586-6279 (Fax)
www.blindbabies.org/
E-mail: bbfinfo@blindbabies.org
Richard McCracken, Executive Director
Gail Calvello, Community Outreach Coordinator, (707)
762-8844

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services and programs that enable and empower families, professionals and the broader community to meet the unique needs of infants and preschool children who are blind, visually impaired or multihandicapped and visually impaired.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: Northern and Central California.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Hoyt Akeson Selected Readings in Ophthalmology; Pediatric Visual Diagnosis Fact Sheets (English and Spanish); Community Fact Sheets.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers functional vision assessments and developmental assessments.

Counseling: Provides counseling for parents, siblings, extended family, and others involved with a preschool visually impaired child. Provides information to family, schools, medical professionals, and others regarding individual children. Refers to other appropriate services.

Early Intervention: Provides home-based early intervention services, which include special activities and instruction in developmental areas affected by vision loss. Some direct teaching provided by staff, but emphasis is on teaching parents to become teachers. Offers home-based direct services and consultant services to other programs for visually impaired infants, and visually impaired children with or without other disabilities.

Information and Referral: Provides information, referral, and consultation services, acts as liaison for family to medical community, accompanying families

on medical visits. Sells Hoyt-Akeson Selected Readings in Pediatric Ophthalmology, Pediatric Visual Diagnosis Fact Sheets (in English/Spanish), Community Fact Sheets. Products for sale on site and online.

Library: Maintains on-site resource library for parents and professionals.

Parent Assistance: Provides instruction for parents in child development areas.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training for health care professionals, special education teachers, and others. Holds presentations, workshops, and training opportunities for other professionals.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Santa Clara: Blind Babies Foundation/OTAGS, 1015 Jefferson Street, Santa Clara, CA 95050-4724

Blind Childrens Center (BBC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

4120 Marathon Street
Los Angeles, CA 90029
Tel: (323) 664-2153 (Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM)
(323) 665-3828 (Fax)
www.blindchildrenscenter.org
E-mail: info@blindchildrenscenter.org
Midge Horton, Executive Director,
midgehorton@blindchildrenscenter.org
Fernanda Armenta-Schmitt, Director of Education and Family Services, fernanda@blindchildrenscenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate the acquisition of independence, building skills for young children with visual impairments.

Established: 1938.

County/District where located: Los Angeles.

Geographic area served: Los Angeles and surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment, birth to 5 years old.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon-Fri 8:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Clients served annually: 150.

Staff: 39. Credentialed teachers, assistant teachers, nurse, OT, O&M, teacher of the visually impaired, speech pathologist, clinical psychologist, social worker, family workers, parent mentor, development staff, director of finance, accountant, information systems coordinator, household, office staff.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Assorted booklets for professionals and parents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Books and videos for parents and professionals regarding childhood visual impairment. Products for sale on site and online.

Counseling: Provides counseling and support groups to families attending program.

Early Intervention: Provides home-based and center-based programs and assessments for infants from birth-3 years and their families.

Parent Assistance: Provides family support. Will assist parents to access appropriate services and receive information.

Preschool: Offers center-based program specific to blind/visually impaired children ages 3-5, including orientation and mobility, teacher for visually impaired, speech therapist, special early intervention teacher.

Blind Children's Learning Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

18542-B Vanderlip Avenue

Santa Ana, CA 92705

Tel: (714) 573-8888

(714) 573-4944 (Fax)

www.blindkids.org

E-mail: kathy.goodspeed@blindkids.org

Stacey M. Proctor, Executive Director,

stacey.proctor@blindkids.org

Kathy Goodspeed, Early Childhood Center

Coordinator, kathy.goodspeed@blindkids.org

Elayne Strong, Director of Youth Outreach,

elayne.strong@blindkids.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop the full potential of blind, visually impaired, and deaf/blind children and youth to lead independent lives.

Established: 1962.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: Greater Orange County community.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, deaf/blind and multiply disabled children.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Staff: 55 full-time, uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Sliding fee for clients. Contracts with school districts and regional center.

Publications: Newsletter, Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consulting services to schools for K-12, itinerant teaching, orientation and mobility counseling, teacher consultation and assessment.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation and individual, group, family/parent, and couple counseling. Offers a mentoring program matching teens with preschoolers and a peer buddy program matching blind and visually impaired teens with sighted peers.

Early Intervention: Provides infant/family services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Provides training in the use of low vision devices.

Preschool: Offers programs for preschoolers and infants on-site and in home. State-accredited for children ages 6 months-6 years.

Blindness Support Services, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3696 Beatty Drive, Suite A

Riverside, CA 92506

Tel: (951) 341-9244

(951) 341-6335 (Fax)

www.blindnesssupport.com

E-mail: BSSAdmin@pacbell.net

Peter Benavidez, CEO,

pbenavidez@blindnesssupport.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a community based focal point, which makes a difference in the lives of blind and visually impaired persons by providing vital skills, which help increase employment, independence, productivity and quality of life.

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Various materials.

Counseling: Offers peer support and adjustment counseling.

Employment: Provides employment preparation and job development training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides independent living skills training.

Support Groups: Sponsors peer support group meetings.

Blind & Visually Impaired Center of Monterey County Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

225 Laurel Avenue
 Pacific Grove, CA 93950
 Tel: (800) 404-3505
 (831) 649-3505
 (831) 649-4057 (Fax)
www.blindandlowvision.org
 E-mail: vision@blindandlowvision.org
 Jeannie M. Cordero, Program Director
 Cheri Padin, Business Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage and inspire people who are blind and visually impaired to transcend the loss of sight as independent, contributing members of society.
Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Monterey County.

Geographic area served: Monterey County.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Hours of operation: Office: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-1:30 PM;

Outreach services: By appointment.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Budget: \$388,159.

Clients served annually: 380.

Staff: 4. 1 O&M coordinator, 1 Business Director, 1 Program Director.

Fee structure: The Low Vision Clinic is fee based.

Publications: Blindfold (bi-monthly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products to older persons.

Assessment: Evaluates present needs and skill levels of clients.

Assistive Products: Optical aids such as pocket, handheld and stand magnifiers, loupes, binoculars, monoculars, and bioptics are available through the Low Vision Clinic.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Computer Training: Provides demonstration and training in the use of some assistive devices, such as video magnification systems, reading machines, computer software for screen magnification and screen reading.

Information and Referral: Refers to other information sources and services.

Low Vision: Devices available for demo, loan and sale. Prescriptions may be obtained through the Low Vision

Clinic. The Low Vision Service Coordinator provides training in the use of low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Provides in-service talks to train personnel who work with blind and visually impaired people.

Recreation: Offers exercise program, lunch, and ceramics class on Tuesdays.

Rehabilitation: Provides home-based instruction in daily living skills.

Support Groups: Holds a low vision support group the second Monday of each month. Call to confirm time and date.

Books Aloud

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Bookshare.org

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Library

480 California Avenue
 Suite 201

Palo Alto, CA 94306

Tel: (650) 475-5440

(650) 475-1066 (Fax)

www.bookshare.org

E-mail: info@bookshare.org

Jesse Fahnestock, Volunteer Coordinator,
volunteer@benetech.org

Gustavo Galindo, Bookshare.org Site Administrator,
gustavo.g@benetech.org

Peter Scialli, Associate, Technical Projects,
support@bookshare.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To dramatically increase the accessibility of books and periodicals for people with visual or other print disabilities.

Established: 2002.

County/District where located: Santa Clara County.

Eligibility requirements: U.S. resident with visual impairment, learning disability, and mobility impairment.

Budget: \$1,000,000.

Staff: 5.

Fee structure: Annual subscription fee: \$50; one-time sign-up fee: \$25. Institutional Access packages available for schools, colleges, or organizations.

Additional information: Bookshare.org is run by Benetech, formerly Arkenstone, the original developer of OpenBook, Ruby, and WYNN scanning and reading products.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Offers a wide selection of accessible books and periodicals in digital formats that may be downloaded to a computer, braille device or other portable device in synthetic voice, braille, or large print.

Library: Maintains a library of materials in alternate formats for paid subscribers.

Braille and Talking Book Library, California State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

900 N Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: (800) 952-5666 (Toll-free in Northern California)

(916) 654-0640

(916) 654-1119 (Fax)

www.library.ca.gov/html/pubser05.cfm

E-mail: btbl@library.ca.gov

Donine Hedrick, Librarian, dhedrick@library.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library services for Northern California residents who are blind or physically disabled and unable to read standard print.

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: Northern California.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Clients served annually: 16,000.

Staff: 19.

Fee structure: Free to qualified applicants.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Braille Institute Library Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

741 N. Vermont Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90029

Tel: (800) 808-2555

(323) 663-1111

(323) 660-3880 (TDD/TTY)

(323) 663-0867 (Fax)

www.braillelibrary.org

E-mail: bils@braillelibrary.org

Henry Chang, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services, products and information for blind and visually impaired people with the goal of eliminating sight loss as a barrier to a fulfilling life.

Established: 1919.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Luis Obispo Counties and parts of Riverside, San Bernardino Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Recommendation from doctor for low vision services.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes. Transportation available to and from facility.

Fee structure: All services are free.

Publications: Expectations, Brailleways, and a catalog of free brailled books for young readers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking book and braille library services.

Reading Services: Has a Telephone Reader Program which provides a variety of timely local newspapers through touch-tone telephones.

Braille Institute of America, Inc. (BIA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

■ **Infant/preschool agency**

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

■ **National publisher**

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

741 North Vermont Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90029

Tel: (800) 272-4553

(323) 663-1111

(323) 663-1428 (Fax)

www.brailleinstitute.org

E-mail: info@brailleinstitute.org

Leslie E. Stocker, President

Sally Jameson, Vice President of Programs and Services,

(323) 906-3136

Vicki Liske, Assistant Vice President, Auxiliary

Liaison, (323) 906-3137

Michelle Sheridan, Director of Volunteer Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information, referrals and materials concerning services for the blind and visually impaired and free services for adults, youths, and preschool children who are legally blind, with the goal of eliminating sight loss as a barrier to a fulfilling life.

Established: 1919.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Southern California.

Eligibility requirements: All levels of visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$24,000,000.

Clients served annually: 66,000.

Staff: 325. 188 at Los Angeles headquarters, and a total of 137 distributed among four regional centers.

Fee structure: All services are free.

Publications: The Braille Mirror Magazine, Expectations (annual anthology for blind children), Special Collections (catalog of free brailled children's fiction), Scene (quarterly newsletter), annual report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells adaptive devices, talking watches, cooking utensils, large-print items. Products for sale on site and through catalog.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Holds contests and events to promote braille reading and writing.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Types of content: Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational, religious, application instruction manuals. Produces braille materials under contract and distributes published materials for free to blind persons who read braille in English. Recording and reading services primarily for students' textbooks and other educational material.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts community outreach programs in more than 130 locations throughout southern California.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides psychological counseling and referral.

Education Services: Offers programs for adults, youth, and preschool children in a broad curriculum with over 200 courses and 373,000 hours of instruction.

Employment: Offers prevocational evaluation, career and skill development. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies.

Information and Referral: Refers to other agencies for health services.

Library: Operates the NLS regional library for Southern California to provide braille, talking books and audiocassettes to blind and physically handicapped persons. Offers volunteer reading and tape recording services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship and fieldwork, in-service training programs and seminars for professionals in allied fields.

Recreation: Offers adult and youth programs, summer youth camp experiences (swimming, sports, arts and crafts, physical education, woodshop, and music activities).

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills on site and at home.

LOCAL OFFICES

Anaheim: Orange County Center, 527 North Dale Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801-4820, Sheila Daily, Director

Rancho Mirage: Desert Center, 70-251 Ramon Road, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, Penny Miller, Director

San Diego: San Diego Center, 4555 Executive Drive, San Diego, CA 92121, Jay Comstock, Director

Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara Center, 2031 De La Vina, Santa Barbara, CA 93105, Michael Lazarovits, Director

Braille Solutions**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Alternate media producer**

651 Yolanda Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Tel: (707) 579-1115

(707) 523-0552 (Fax)

www.braillesolutions.com

E-mail: ddavid@gire.org

Deanna David, Braille Production Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Sonoma County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Fee structure: \$30 minimum per order.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Bank statements, newsletters, conference programs, agendas, minutes, business cards, brochures, menus, cookbooks, personnel manuals, computer manuals. Certain braille items for sale: cookbooks, self-help, teaching aids (English and Spanish). Also produces materials in large print, braille graphics, modem transfer, scan and store.

Braille Transcribers of Humboldt

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

10 West Seventh Street
Suite D
Eureka, CA 95502
Tel: (707) 442-4048
www.members.tripod.com/~Whipkey/
Patricia A. Welsh, Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide braille transcription services for the visually impaired and persons/businesses serving them.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Humboldt County.

Geographic area served: Humboldt County and California North Coast.

Eligibility requirements: Must be blind or serving the visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Not wheelchair accessible.

Staff: All volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational, religious.

Braille Transcribers Sacramento North Area

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

4848 Cottage Way
Carmichael, CA 95608
Tel: (916) 971-7912
(916) 971-7410 (Fax)

Joanne Call, Assignment Coordinator,
jcall@sanjuan.edu
Julie Cormier, Assignment Assistant

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To produce educational materials and books in braille.

Established: 1959.

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: California.

Ages served: 0 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM
mid-August through mid-June.

Accessibility: Ramp-to-door, handicapped parking.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: 5 to 8 volunteers.

Fee structure: 10 cents per page, \$1.00 per volume for cover binding and label/tactile.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational, religious, foreign language.

Education Services: Transcribes educational materials.

Information and Referral: Provides some information on other transcribing groups.

Braille Transcription Project of Santa Clara County

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

101 North Bascom
San Jose, CA 95128
Tel: (408) 298-4468

Helen Coughlin, Vice President
Susan Williams, Secretary of the Board

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide braille materials on request, especially to local school districts.

County/District where located: Santa Clara County.

Geographic area served: No restrictions.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. mornings.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

Staff: Completely volunteer organization.

Fee structure: Free to local schools, otherwise 15 cents per page, 80 cents per volume.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Mathematics, foreign language, textbooks, technical materials, menus, and others according to client need.

LOCAL OFFICES

Los Altos: North Branch, Hillview School, Room 8,
Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022, Margot
McCann, Director

California Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

605 Market Street
Suite 1109
San Francisco, CA 94105-3213
Tel: (800) 443-9370
(415) 777-3937
(415) 777-1082 (Fax)
www.eyedoc.org
E-mail: starrs2020@aol.com

Starr E. Shulman, Executive Director, starrs@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve the total visual health care needs of the people through public and professional education, membership services, and legislative advocacy.

Established: 1959.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: California.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Fee structure: Annual dues, \$575.

Publications: CAO News (quarterly), CAO Insights (monthly).

California Assistive Technology Systems**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **State technology program**

2000 Evergreen

Sacramento, CA 94244-2220

Tel: (916) 263-8687

(916) 263-8685 (TDD/TTY)

(916) 263-8683 (Fax)

www.atnet.org

Richard Devylder, Services Coordinator,
rdevylde@dor.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Assists persons with disabilities or their employers, to purchase durable equipment, adaptive aids and assistive devices in order to obtain or maintain employment or to live more independently.

Information and Referral: Provides free information, education and outreach about assistive technology and offers a free information and referral service to California residents on AT suppliers, daily living devices, community resources, funding resources and more.

California Department of Aging**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **State unit on aging**

1600 K Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: (800) 510-2020 (in-state only)

(916) 322-3887 (or (916) 322-5290)

(916) 324-4989 (Fax)

www.aging.ca.gov

Laura Connolly, Acting Director, lconnoll@aging.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advocate for the dignity, independence, health and community involvement of seniors and adults with functional impairments.

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: California.

Ages served: 21 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

California Department of Developmental Services: Early Start**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Part C early intervention agency**

1600 Ninth Street

Room 330

Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: (916) 654-2773 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(916) 654-2054 (TDD/TTY)

(916) 654-3255 (Fax)

www.dds.ca.gov\earlystart

Cliff Allenby, Director, callenby@dds.ca.gov

Rick A. Ingraham, Part C Coordinator, Community Services and Supports Division, Children and Family Services Branch, Community Services Division, (916) 654-3020 (Fax), ringraha@dds.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: California.

Eligibility requirements: Developmental disability, developmental delay in one or more areas, established risk for developmental delay or at high risk for disability.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

Clients served annually: Over 42,000 infants and toddlers.

Fee structure: No cost for early intervention services.

Publications: California Early Start Central Directory of Early Intervention Resources, California Early Start Annual Report, Starting Out Together: An Early Intervention Guide for Families, Family Resource Centers and Networks (brochure), Parents' Rights: An Early Start Guide for Parents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses infants and toddlers in 5 developmental areas: communication, cognitive, physical including hearing and vision, adaptive, social/emotional.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for California's early intervention service system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Administers interagency system for infants and toddlers with disabilities, birth to age 3, in conjunction with the California Department of Education.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

California Department of Education: Clearinghouse for Specialized Media and Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

1430 N Street
Room 3207
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: (916) 445-5103
(916) 323-9732 (Fax)
www.cde.ca.gov/re/pn/sm/

Rod J. Brawley, Ex-Officio Trustee, APH and Publication Consultant, CDE, State Special Schools and Services, rbrawley@cde.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make learning resources and environments accessible and meaningful to students with disabilities.

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: California.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Fee structure: Free to California public schools.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks adopted by the State Board of Education.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to transcribers, teachers, administrators regarding the provision of special media for students with disabilities.

Education Services: Provides special media to educators in California public schools serving students with disabilities.

Financial Assistance: Allocates state funds to districts and county offices of education to help pay for readers who assist certified classroom teachers who are blind.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to sources of assistive technology.

California Department of Education: Special Education Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

California Department of Education
Special Education Division
Programs for the Visually Impaired
1430 N Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: (800) 926-0648 (Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.)

(916) 323-9779 (TDD/TTY)

(916) 445-4550 (Fax)

www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/

E-mail: dkellehe@cde.ca.gov

Rod J. Brawley, Manager, CSMT, (916) 445-5103, (916) 323-9732 (Fax), rbrawley@cde.ca.gov

Dennis Kelleher, Consultant, Programs for the Visually Impaired, dkellehe@cde.ca.gov, (916) 327-0842

Stuart Wittenstein, Superintendent, California School for the Blind, (510) 794-3800, (916) 794-3816 (Fax), swittenstein@csb-cde.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide assistance, information and coordination of services regarding the development and education of children with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities.

Established: 1868.

County/District where located: Sacramento, CA.

Geographic area served: California.

Eligibility requirements: Determined by IEP teams.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: California School for the Blind, Fremont serves visually impaired students in need of a residential program.

Clients served annually: 10,000.

Staff: Variable. Teachers, counselors, consultants, librarians, administrators. Other staff as assigned.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Special Edge Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** APH Products.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultant services to other programs. Coordinates services between various agencies and programs.

Education Services: Assists parents, educators, and state and local educational agencies in implementing

the requirements of Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) regarding Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for children with disabilities.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to services.

California Department of Rehabilitation: Blind Field Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

2000 Evergreen Street
Sacramento, CA 95815-3832
Tel: (916) 263-8953

(916) 263-7477 (TDD/TTY)

(916) 263-7478 (Fax)

www.dor.ca.gov

E-mail: jarmstro@dor.ca.gov

Catherine Campisi, Director, (916) 263-8987,
ccampisi@dor.ca.gov

Jim Armstrong, Program Manager, Services for the
Blind and Visually Impaired, (916) 263-8954,
jarmstro@dor.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independent living and equality for individuals with disabilities.

Established: 2003.

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: State of California.

Eligibility requirements: State guidelines. Varies with each program.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: All department offices are accessible to the blind and visually impaired consumers.

Residential Facilities: The Orientation Center for the Blind in Albany, CA, the Living Skills Center for the Blind in San Palo, CA, the Foundation for the Junior Blind in Los Angeles, CA, and Blindness Support Services in Riverside, CA, provide residential adjustment training services.

Clients served annually: 8,000.

Staff: 145. Rehabilitation Counselors for the Blind (RCB), Counselor Teachers for the Blind (CT), and administrative and support staff.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: Consumer Information Handbook.

Additional information: Blind Field Services (BFS) provides vocational preparation and job placement services as well as adjustment to blindness and independent living training.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Employment: Administers programs for prevocational and vocational training, vocational placement and follow-up, vending stand training.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Administers and oversees state rehabilitative services provided by district and branch offices to blind or visually impaired persons throughout California. Services include orientation and mobility training, activities of daily living training, personal and home management, communications, vocational rehabilitation. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and over.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Anaheim: California Department of Rehabilitation, Orange/San Gabriel District, 222 South Harbor Boulevard, Suite 300, Anaheim, CA 92805-3701

Chico: California Department of Rehabilitation, Chico District, 470 Rio Lindo Avenue, Suite 4, Chico, CA 95926-1899

Concord: California Department of Rehabilitation, Mt. Diablo Delta District, 1485 Enea Court, Suite 1100, Concord, CA 94520-5228

Fresno: California Department of Rehabilitation, Fresno District, 2550 Mariposa Street, Room 2000, Fresno, CA 93721-2270

Long Beach: California Department of Rehabilitation, Los Angeles South Bay District, 4300 Long Beach Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90807-2008

Los Angeles: California Department of Rehabilitation, Greater Los Angeles District, 3251 West 6th Street, Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90020-2591

Oakland: California Department of Rehabilitation, Oakland District, 1515 Clay Street, Suite 119, Oakland, CA 94612-1413

Riverside: California Department of Rehabilitation, Inland Empire District, 3130 Chicago Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507-9796

Sacramento: California Department of Rehabilitation, Sacramento District, 2225 19th Street, Sacramento, CA 95818-1690

San Diego: California Department of Rehabilitation, San Diego District, 7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 107, San Diego, CA 92108-4402

San Francisco: California Department of Rehabilitation, San Francisco District, 301 Howard Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94107-1737,
www.dor.ca.gov

San Jose: California Department of Rehabilitation, San Jose District, 100 Paseo de San Antonio, Room 324, San Jose, CA 95113-1479

Santa Barbara: California Department of Rehabilitation, Santa Barbara District, 509 East Montecito Street, Suite 101, Santa Barbara, CA 93103-3216

Santa Rosa: California Department of Rehabilitation, Santa Rosa District, 50 D Street, Suite 425, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-9990

Van Nuys: California Department of Rehabilitation, Van Nuys/Foothill District, 5900 Sepulveda Boulevard, Suite 240, Van Nuys, CA 91411-2511

California Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

2415 K Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: (800) 877-5738
(916) 441-3990
(916) 448-1423 (Fax)
www.coavision.org
E-mail: coa@coavision.org
Elizabeth L. Brutvan, Executive Director,
ELBrutvan@coavision.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote continuing education for ophthalmologists and quality care in ophthalmology.
County/District where located: Sacramento County.
Geographic area served: California.
Funded by: Workshop sales.
Publications: California Optometry Magazine.
International material for professionals and the public.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.
Health/Medical: Sponsors the National Eye Care Project to give free eye care to the elderly.

California Pacific Medical Center: Department of Ophthalmology with Low Vision Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2340 Clay Street
Fifth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94115
Tel: (415) 600-3901
(415) 600-3949 (Fax)
www.cpmc.org/eye

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision rehabilitation, education, and research.
Established: 1960.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Ophthalmology report required.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, low vision specialist, full-service eye department.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

California School for the Blind (CSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

500 Walnut Avenue
Fremont, CA 94536
Tel: (510) 794-3800
(510) 794-3813 (Fax)
www.csb-cde.ca.gov
Stuart H. Wittenstein, Superintendent,
swittenstein@csb-cde.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational services for blind children, including multiply disabled and deaf-blind.
Established: 1860.
County/District where located: Alameda County.
Geographic area served: California.
Eligibility requirements: California students who are visually impaired, deaf-blind, visually impaired/multiply handicapped, from pre-school through age 21.
Ages served: 3 to 21.
Hours of operation: Sunday evening to Friday afternoon, closed holidays and weekends.
Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.
Residential Facilities: Residential program for children and youths.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers assessment program to help local educators and parents understand students' needs. Provides comprehensive assessments to students with visual impairments throughout California.
Braille and Reading Instruction: Teaches braille reading and writing.
Community Outreach Programs: Provides technical assistance to local agencies to develop and implement educational programs upon request, including assessment and assistive technology training.
Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.
Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services and referrals.

Education Services: Offers non-graded special classes and graded mainstream classes in local schools.

Employment: Offers community-based transition-to-work program, pre-vocational/vocational education.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers week-long parent training during assessment of students.

Preschool: Has a preschool program.

Professional Training: Sponsors seminars with Northern California AER, San Francisco State University, and Cal State L.A. Workshops are provided on assessment and programming of students with visual impairments. Other workshops and in-services offered when requested by local agencies.

Recreation: Offers full range of activities, adapted physical education. Promotes participation in recreation and leisure.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in communication skills, daily living skills, use of assistive technology, motor development, auditory, visual and tactile training.

California State University, Los Angeles

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

5151 State University Drive

Los Angeles, CA 90032

Tel: (323) 343-4411

(323) 343-5605 (Fax)

www.calstatela.edu/dept/sped

Diane L. Fazzi, Orientation and Mobility, Teacher
Education Programs in Visual Impairment, Special
Education, Charter College of Education,
dfazzi@calstatela.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Mainly Southern California.

Eligibility requirements: Graduate students must possess a B.A. from an accredited institution with minimum GPA of 2.75.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 AM-8:00 PM, limited hours on Friday and Saturday.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Residential Facilities: Facilities available for college students.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: M.A. in Special Education (options in Orientation and Mobility or Visual Impairment), Ph.D. in Special Education (jointly with UCLA), Education Specialist in Visual Impairment

Credential, Clinical Rehabilitation Services Credential in Orientation and Mobility.

California State University, Northridge: Students with Disabilities Resources

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

18111 Nordhoff Street

Room 110

Northridge, CA 91330-8264

Tel: (818) 677-2684 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(818) 677-4929 (Fax)

www.csun.edu/cod/sdr/

E-mail: sdr@csun.edu

Mary Ann Cummins Prager, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Eligibility requirements: Blindness or partial sight to the degree that it impedes the educational process.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:45 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers disability management advisement.

Information and Referral: Refers to appropriate campus and community agencies.

Rehabilitation: Offers, in its Computer Access Lab (CAL), technology assessment and training program. Provides access to adaptive educational equipment, materials, and supplies, such as adapted personal computers, brailers, and portable lab stations. Provides reader services, proctor services, and transcription services (braille and large print).

California Transcribers and Educators of the Visually Handicapped, Inc. (CTEVH)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

741 North Vermont Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90029-3594

Tel: (323) 666-2211 (Local)

www.CTEVH.org

Paula Lightfoot, President, president@ctevh.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To establish and delineate common transcribing procedures; to coordinate the work of volunteer and career transcribers; and to promote acceptable practices and technology to enhance the total educational program for the visually impaired.

Eligibility requirements: Volunteer and professional transcribers; educators, including resource teachers, itinerant teachers and O&M specialists; rehabilitation counselors and counselor-teachers; school and agency administrators; parents of visually impaired children; librarians; paraprofessionals; students, both those

learning to work with persons who are visually impaired and those who are visually impaired themselves; and all others concerned with the special needs of individuals with visual impairment.

Publications: CTEVH Journal (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Disseminates news for transcribers and educators, highlights new developments in their fields, and offers informative articles by specialists in the many areas of transcribing and the education of students with visual impairments. Holds an annual conference and special workshops.

Financial Assistance: Offers scholarship for basic or advanced training courses for educators and funding for CTEVH Conference and other skill-enhancements for transcribers. Offers the Donna Coffee Memorial Scholarship.

Castro Valley School District

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

P.O. Box 2146
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Tel: (510) 537-3000
(510) 537-4754 (Fax)

Margaret E. Kidd, Director, Special Services, (510)
537-1403 (Fax), margkidd@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Alameda County.

Geographic area served: San Leandro, Hayward, San Lorenzo, and Castro Valley school districts.

Eligibility requirements: Meet state eligibility requirements for special education.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers assessment tests for students from birth through grade 12.

Early Intervention: Administers tests, offers support, and provides referrals per eligibility under Part C.

Education Services: Provides educational services for visually impaired students in the district.

Preschool: Conducts testing in special classes.

Center for Living Independence for Multi-Handicapped Blind (CLIMB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

161 West Sierra Madre Boulevard
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Tel: (626) 355-1447
(626) 289-5378 (Fax)
www.climbwac.com

E-mail: climbwac@aol.com

William H. Young, Executive Director

Chris Onye, Director of Operations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To design and deliver vocational, residential and community integration services to developmentally disabled individuals which will result in their fullest participation in all aspects of community living and the work force.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, ambulatory, developmentally disabled adults, 18-64 years of age; possesses minimal toileting and personal hygiene skills; medical conditions determined appropriate for placement by an Interdisciplinary Team; manageable and trainable maladaptive behaviors as determined to be appropriate for respective placement levels by an Interdisciplinary Team; possesses potential for travel training as determined by evaluation of the Climb Mobility Specialist; demonstrates minimal pre-vocational, social/interpersonal and communication skills necessary for vocational or work-related training; demonstrates willingness to participate in residential and workshop-related activities.

Ages served: 18 to 64.

Hours of operation: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for multiply handicapped adults.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, psychological evaluation/testing, and individual counseling.

Employment: Provides vocational training/evaluations, career/skill counseling, occupational skill development, sheltered workshops, placement.

Health/Medical: Refers for diagnosis, evaluation, treatment, and prescriptions for eye health.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living, community integration, money management, personal and social adjustment, and braille skills.

Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1124 Baker Street
Bakersfield, CA 93305
Tel: (661) 322-5234
(661) 322-7754 (Fax)
www.cbvi.org
E-mail: bakerst@cbvi.org

Jennifer Peters, Executive Director, jpeters@cbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities that promote independence and enhance the quality of life for the blind and visually impaired people of Kern County.

Established: 1950.

County/District where located: Kern County.

Geographic area served: Kern County.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind or referred from Dept. of Rehabilitation.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Meets ADA guidelines.

Staff: 7. Certified O&M instructors, professional rehabilitation teacher, computer instructor, and low vision consultant.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Inner Vision (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision devices, canes, talking watches and clocks, large-print cards, puzzles and cookbooks, magnifiers, and handcrafted gifts. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides training to care providers and acts as resource for local senior centers, convalescent homes, and retirement centers.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides support groups, including emotional support and practical advice for living with vision loss.

Information and Referral: Connects consumers to other organizations and agencies to provide additional assistance. Provides referrals for low vision services.

Library: Maintains a library of descriptive videos, books on tape, and braille materials.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Refers parents to parent support groups.

Professional Training: Offers training to health care providers caretakers, transportation service providers.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts and field trips.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills.

Support Groups: Offers support groups for adults.

Center for the Partially Sighted

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

12301 Wilshire Boulevard

Suite 600

Los Angeles, CA 90025

Tel: (310) 458-3501

(310) 576-2749 (Fax)

www.low-vision.org

E-mail: info@low-vision.org

LaDonna Ringering, President/CEO,

lringering@low-vision.org

Phyllis Amaral, Director of Clinical Services,

pamaral@low-vision.org

Anita Arakawa, Director of Rehabilitation Services,

AnitaA@low-vision.org

Trang Nguyen, Coordinator, Adaptive Technology,
Adaptive Technologies

Tori Schladen, Family Resource Project Coordinator,
Children's Program

Bill Takeshita, Director of Optometric Services

Pam Thompson, Coordinator of Psychological Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independent living for people with impaired vision by providing comprehensive rehabilitation services for partially sighted/legally blind persons of all ages.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited area served.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired (visual acuity in the better eye not exceeding 20/70, but better than light perception, or visual field not greater than 30 degrees).

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 2,400.

Staff: Low vision optometrists, psychologists, rehabilitation instructors.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

Publications: Store Catalog, Developing Your Child's Vision: A Guide for Parents of Infants and Toddlers with Vision Impairment (English and Spanish editions), Sightlines (large-print client newsletter), Eye Witness (newsletter for donors and friends).

Additional information: Our staff of professionals trained in low vision rehabilitation provide comprehensive low vision care.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Computer Training, Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Low vision store carries magnifiers, talking clocks and watches, large-print games, various independent living and low vision devices. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Computer Training: Provides training on computers using adaptive programs. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Installs adaptive programs on home computers, makes modifications necessary for home use.

Counseling: Provides psychological evaluations and therapy by licensed clinical psychologists, peer counseling, diabetes support group, individual, family, and group counseling, peer phone counseling. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services for children with impaired sight and those with unique vision problems.

Employment: Refers for employment-oriented services. Has a special program for working adults who need modification due to vision loss.

Health/Medical: Performs evaluation of functional vision. Provides prescription and training in the use of spectacles/devices, diabetic support group, and HIV vision loss program. Refers for, or provides consultation to, other agencies for other health services.

Information and Referral: Refers for local services.

Low Vision: Doctors trained in low vision provide functional vision assessments, design and prescribe low vision devices and demonstrate technology to help individuals meet their visual goals.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent counseling. Family Resource Project offers ongoing resources and referrals, education, advocacy, and support for parents and children in our program. Services offered in Spanish and English.

Professional Training: Provides in-service training and workshops on low vision. Offers optometric residency and internship/fieldwork placement in rehabilitation training, low vision, optometry to professionals from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers limited recreational program for clients. Refers for other recreational/leisure services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills in classroom or home settings and in the use of low vision devices and adaptive techniques for people with diabetes. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

Support Groups: Support groups include older adults group, macular degeneration group, diabetes support groups, working-age adult group.

LOCAL OFFICES

Torrance: 3537 Torrance Boulevard, Suite 18, Torrance, CA 90503, info@low-vision.org

Community Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency
- Social service organization

130 West Flora Street
Stockton, CA 95202
Tel: (209) 466-3836
(209) 466-5692 (Fax)

Paul LaMarche, Executive Director,
ccbviadmin@sbcglobal.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist the blind and visually impaired in the greater San Joaquin County area and to promote cognizance of their potential and self worth, maximize independent functioning and prevent institutionalization with integration into mainstream society.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: San Joaquin County.

Geographic area served: San Joaquin County and surrounding areas.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Total accessibility.

Funded by: Private donations.

Clients served annually: 150.

Staff: 16. 8 full-time, 8 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No fees for service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes magnifiers and assistive devices.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille grades I and II.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, individual, family, and couple counseling.

Employment: Provides training in job-seeking skills.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral and case management services.

Library: Maintains a library of talking books and large-print books.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training in orientation and mobility.

Reading Services: Offers newspaper reading services by telephone.

Recreation: Offers socialization, arts and crafts, weaving, ceramics, bowling, beep baseball.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills, braille, orientation and mobility.

Contra Costa Braille Transcribers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

2823 Wiswall Drive
Richmond, CA 94806
Tel: (510) 223-2517

Adrienne Giles, Chair, agiles@juno.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967.

Geographic area served: Nationwide, with emphasis on California.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Menus, forms, and other materials.

Contra Costa Braille Transcribers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1139 Westmoreland Circle
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Tel: (925) 937-9413

Patty Biasca, Textbook Resources, PatBiasca@aol.com

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks and educational materials.

Describedmedia.com

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5727 Canoga Avenue
Suite 382
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
Tel: (888) 995-0077
(818) 712-4900

E-mail: newmediaresources@aol.com

Marc Granirer, President
Dana Walker, CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide audiodescribed media—motion pictures, TV programs, documentaries, etc.—in various home video formats to institutions and members of the general public.

Established: 2000.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: International.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Staff: 3.

Additional information: Describedmedia.com is a subsidiary of New Media Resources.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Distributes audiodescribed media.

Desert Blind Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

800 South Vella Road
Palm Springs, CA 92263
Tel: (760) 323-4414

D. Elaine H. Clark, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for elderly people who are visually impaired and physically disabled.

County/District where located: Riverside County.

Geographic area served: Coachella Valley.

Eligibility requirements: Sixty years of age and over.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Transportation Services to older persons.

Transportation: Provides escort transportation service for senior citizens age 55 and over.

Doran Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DCBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

413 Laurel Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Tel: (831) 458-9766

(831) 426-6233 (Fax)

E-mail: doran@doranblindcenter.org

Pam Brandin, Executive Director, (650) 858-0202, (650) 858-0214 (Fax), pbrandin@pcbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve the blind and visually impaired residents of Santa Cruz County, and their support networks, to help them preserve independence and achieve their highest potential.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Santa Cruz County.

Geographic area served: Santa Cruz County.

Eligibility requirements: Any level of visual impairment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$300,000.

Clients served annually: 150.

Staff: 8.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

Publications: Community and client newsletters.

Additional information: DCBVI is an independent subsidiary of Peninsula Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (PCBVI) of Palo Alto, California. PCBVI shares management and professional expertise with DCBVI and provides financial support.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides counseling and support groups.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluations and dispenses optical aids and other low vision devices; has low vision education classes, Choices and Changes.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers weaving and exercise classes.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

Earle Baum Center of the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4539 Occidental Road

Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Tel: (707) 524-3222

(707) 636-2768 (Fax)

www.earlebaum.org

E-mail: ebc@earlebaum.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide facilities and foster programs and opportunities in such areas as education, technology, rehabilitation, health and fitness and recreation to improve the personal, social and economic condition of the blind and visually impaired.

Established: 1999.

Geographic area served: Northern California.

Accessibility: Totally Accessible.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides braille instruction.

Computer Training: Provides training in the use of adaptive technology.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility instruction.

Recreation: Offers tap dance classes, Art History through Touch and Sound, craft classes, fitness classes, and yoga classes.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills.

East Bay Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2928 Adeline Street

Berkeley, CA 94703-2503

Tel: (510) 843-6935

(510) 843-6006 (Fax)

www.volunteersolutions.org/vccc/org/1895124.html

E-mail: ebc@pacbell.net

Lizz Deeef, President, Office and Weekend Activities

Grace Rodriguez, Vice President, Weekday Classes,

(510) 841-9580

Connie Skeen, Computer Instruction, (510) 532-7687

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide social, recreational and educational programs and resources for the visually impaired, furnish information and referral services and assist in providing needed supplies and equipment.

Established: 1940.

County/District where located: Alameda County.

Geographic area served: San Francisco Bay area.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-3:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 2 part-time staff members, 5 part-time teachers, about 15-20 volunteers.

Fee structure: \$5.00 membership dues, dinner donations requested.

Publications: Monthly newsletter, large print and braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Braille and Reading Instruction to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes white canes and tips, braille supplies, and craft items. Products for sale on site. Assists elderly adults in procuring assistive devices.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille classes for the elderly.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, speech output systems.

Counseling: Offers life-enrichment classes.

Health/Medical: Offers Meridian massage and Tai Chi classes.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, creative writing, chorus, music appreciation, and weekend social activities.

Eye Care America

See U.S. National Organizations.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Southern California Office (FFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

11400 West Olympic Boulevard
Suite 200

Los Angeles, CA 90064

Tel: (310) 445-8863

(310) 445-8864 (Fax)

www.fightblindness.org

E-mail: info@blindness.org

Susan DeRemer, Event Director,

sderemer@blindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fund the research that will discover the causes, treatments, preventive methods, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: In Focus (newsletter), In Sight (online newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

2920 Domingo Avenue
#202

Berkeley, CA 94705-2400

Tel: (800) 683-5555

(510) 486-0461

(510) 486-0462 (Fax)

www.fightblindness.org

E-mail: info@fightblindness.org

Terry Pink Alexander, Executive Director,

tpalexander@blindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To drive the research that will provide preventions, treatments and cures for people affected by retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher Syndrome, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

Established: 1971.

Geographic area served: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: FFB InFocus (newsletter), FFB InSight (online newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

Foundation for the Junior Blind of America

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

■ Infant/preschool agency

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

5300 Angeles Vista Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90043

Tel: (323) 295-4555

(323) 296-0424 (Fax)

www.fjb.org/

E-mail: info@fjb.org

Robert Ralls, President, bralls@fjb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide programs and services for children, adults and families that enable blind and visually impaired people to achieve self-esteem and independence.

Established: 1953.

Geographic area served: Primarily California, but serves entire U.S. and international.

Eligibility requirements: Totally blind, legally blind, partially sighted.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM (administrative offices).

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 7-days-a-week residential programs for children and adults.

Clients served annually: 6000.

Staff: 175 staff members and 700 additional volunteers.

Fee structure: Fee-for-service, charged to public agencies only.

Publications: Annual Report, Foundation News (agency newsletter), The Outlook (recreation newsletter), Dialogue (Davidson Program for Independence newsletter), Focus on Kids (Special

Education School and Residential Program newsletter),
In Touch (Infant-Family Program newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides speakers to educate on issues affecting blind/visually impaired persons to the community.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to other agencies on educational, recreational, vocational, rehabilitative issues of children, and adults who are blind or visually impaired.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation and individual, group, and family/parent counseling. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for counseling/social work services.

Early Intervention: Offers home-based infant program for infants/toddlers who are multiply disabled, blind and support services to their families.

Employment: Provides prevocational evaluation, career counseling and training, occupational skill development.

In-Home Services: Provides home health care services for infants and toddlers.

Library: Maintains library with talking book records, braille books, large-print books, recorded magazines on site.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers evening and weekend programs, year-round camp program, special interest events, speakers, trips, swimming, bowling, skiing, bicycling, river rafting, arts and crafts, day camp services for youths/children (Malibu facility).

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities for daily living, remedial education, home management, sensory communication and training, use of low vision devices, electronic travel devices computer and technology training. Offers state-certified non-public school and residential living program for children and youth. Accepts students who are emotionally disturbed, learning-disabled, mentally retarded, orthopedically disabled. Other multiply disabled blind persons taught according to ability level. Provides training in skills for daily living and in specific issues of the diabetic elderly who are blind or visually impaired. Full training in computer education and adaptive technology.

Glaucoma Research Foundation (GRF)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Golden Gate Braille Transcribers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1466 44th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
Tel: (415) 566-1641

Evelyn E. Daiss, President

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbook, recreational materials.

Guide Dogs for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

350 Los Ranchitos Road
San Rafael, CA 94903
Tel: (800) 295-4050

(415) 499-4000
(415) 499-4035 (Fax)

www.guidedogs.com

E-mail: information@guidedogs.com

Robert L. Phillips, President and CEO

Sue Sullivan, Admissions, ssullivan@guidedogs.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide enhanced mobility to qualified individuals through partnership with dogs whose unique skills are developed and nurtured by dedicated volunteers and a professional staff.

Established: 1942.

County/District where located: Marin County.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Eligibility requirements: At least 16 years of age, legally blind and physically and emotionally capable of undergoing required four-week in-residence training program.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Administrative offices: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for 24 trainees at California campus, 12 trainees at Oregon campus.

Clients served annually: New clients: 350; existing clients: 2,000.

Staff: 280. Full-time, part-time, and volunteer.

Fee structure: No fee to the client.

Publications: Guide Dog News.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides follow-up consultation after graduation via phone or home visits.

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

Professional Training: Offers orientation and mobility seminars for continuing education units. Trains own instructors.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Boring: 32901 South East Kelso Road, Boring, OR 97009

FIELD OFFICES

Topanga: 1776 Old Topanga Canyon Road, Topanga, CA 90290

Guide Dogs of America

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

13445 Glenoaks Boulevard

Sylmar, CA 91342

Tel: (818) 362-5834

(818) 362-6870 (Fax)

www.guidedogsofamerica.org

E-mail: mail@guidedogsofamerica.org

Jay Bormann, President/Director

Andi Krusoe, Admissions and Graduate Services

Manager, alkrusoe@guidedogsofamerica.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide professionally trained guide dogs and instruction in their use, free of charge, to blind and visually impaired individuals, so they may pursue their goals of independence and greater mobility.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Individually evaluated for acceptance to program.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Braille signage, wheelchair access.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 28-day, in-residence training course. Dormitory/apartment setting.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Partners (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses clients to determine suitability for acceptance.

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide mobility training.

In-home training offered to selected individuals.

Information and Referral: Refers blind individuals and their families to resources via phone or e-mail. Offers tours, speakers bureau, presentations/demonstrations. Participates at conventions and events of organizations/agencies of and for the blind.

Professional Training: Offers 3-year apprentice program for dog guide instructors.

Guide Dogs of the Desert International (GDDI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

60740 Dillon Road

Whitewater, CA 92282

Tel: (760) 329-6257

(760) 329-2127 (Fax)

www.guidedogsofthedesert.org/

E-mail: Info@guidedogsofthedesert.org

Brian VanDusen, President, Board of Directors,

bvd@guidedogsofthedesert.org

Kim Laidlaw, Secretary, Board of Directors,

klaidlaw@guidedogsofthedesert.org

Victoria vanHorn, Office Administrator/Volunteer

Co-Ordinator, VvanHorn@guidedogsofthedesert.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide high quality guide dogs and individual instruction to the blind, elderly blind, and blind with special needs.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Riverside County.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada and Mexico-with graduates overseas.

Eligibility requirements: Students must be legally blind (20/200 vision).

Ages served: 16 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Entire campus is handicapped accessible.

Residential Facilities: On campus dormitories.

Clients served annually: 20.

Staff: 5. Canine Management, Certified Instruction, Puppy Raising Coordination, Graduate Services, Admin./Volunteer Coordination.

Fee structure: No charge.

Publications: Paw Prints (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Dog Guide Training to older persons.

Dog Guide: Providing independent mobility to the blind through the use of a guide dog.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southwest Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

6160 Cornerstone Court East
Second Floor

San Diego, CA 92121-3710

Tel: (800) 432-7619 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(858) 623-2777

(858) 646-0784 (TDD/TTY)

(858) 642-0266 (Fax)

www.hknc.org

Cathy Kirscher, Regional Representative, Southwest Region, ckirscher@alliant.edu

Anindya Bapin, Supervisor, Technology Center, (516)

944-8900, anindya.bhattacharyya@hknc.org

Sr. Bernadette Wynne, NTT Coordinator, (516)

944-8900, ntthknc@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies.

Established: 1967.

Geographic area served: Arizona, California, Guam, Samoa, Hawaii, Nevada.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind and deaf.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Accessibility: Accessible for all disabilities.

Fee structure: Fee charged to sponsoring agencies for evaluation, rehabilitation training, and room and board.

Publications: NAT-CENT Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Determines individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind through informal assessments.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to

Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Helping Hands for the Blind (HHB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Hope Infant Family Support Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

6401 Linda Vista Road

c/o San Diego County Office of Education

San Diego, CA 92111-7399

Tel: (858) 292-3835

(858) 569-5394 (Fax)

www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us

Lois Pastore, Director, lpastore@sdcoe.net

Meryl Berk, Vision Consultant, mberk@sdcoe.k12.ca.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide innovative early intervention services to families of eligible infants with special needs between birth and three years of age.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: San Diego.

Geographic area served: San Diego County.

Eligibility requirements: Infants showing delays in development or who are at risk for delay due to medical conditions or diagnoses, including visual impairment, with or without other disabilities.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: All facilities are ADA compliant.

Clients served annually: 350 families.

Staff: Staff is comprised of credentialed, licensed and paraprofessional early interventionists. Consultant staff includes credentialed and licensed staff in the areas of vision, hearing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech and language, nursing, social work, assistive technology, and behavior.

Fee structure: No fee for eligible children.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides counseling to parents.

Early Intervention: Provides specialized instruction in all developmental areas. Offers home or community services including consultation in the following areas: nursing, speech and language, social work/parent counseling, vision, deafness and hearing impairment, premature infant development, assistive technology consultant services to other programs; occupational, speech, bilingual (English/Spanish) instruction available.

REGIONAL OFFICES

San Marcos: HOPE Infant Family Support Program, 910 West San Marcos Boulevard, Suite 109, San Marcos, CA 92069

Institute for Families

See U.S. National Organizations.

Intercommunity Blind Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

7702 South Washington Avenue

Whittier, CA 90602

Tel: (562) 945-8771

(562) 945-0051 (Fax)

www.intercommunityblindcenter.org

Frank S. Vasquez, Executive Director,

frank@intercommunityblindcenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To integrate blind and visually impaired persons into all aspects of the sighted world and to improve their overall quality of life.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Los Angeles County area.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that cannot be corrected with normal eye wear.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 1 full-time, 4 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers beginning and intermediate training in braille communication techniques.

Business/Personal Services: Provides assistance, from staff and volunteers, for clients who need help in completing their correspondence, check and bill preparation and related personal management needs who are unable to secure this type of assistance from other sources.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance.

Counseling: Runs a support group.

Library: Provides clients with cassette tapes from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Recreation: Offers instruction in various craft projects and also provides a social setting for the adult blind. Has a youth group (6-19 years) and offers adult recreational outings (44 years and older) and arts and crafts instruction.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills (cooking, homemaking, house management).

Support Groups: Has a support group that allows clients the opportunity to openly discuss issues related to their visual condition within a safe and confidential environment and with those who share the same or similar experiences and concerns.

Volunteer Services: Volunteers provide valuable assistance in the Center's various programs and services as well as in a number of administrative and clerical functions. Interested persons are always welcome to inquire about volunteer opportunities.

Jules Stein Eye Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

University of California at Los Angeles

100 Stein Plaza

Los Angeles, CA 90095-7000

Tel: (310) 825-5000

www.jsei.org/

Bartly J. Mondino, Director and Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide for the care of patients with eye disorders, research in the vision sciences, and education in the field of ophthalmology.

Established: 1966.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. by appointment, or emergency clinic at all times.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Kenneth Jernigan Library for Blind Children, American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

KPBS-FM Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

San Diego State University

5200 Campanile Drive

San Diego, CA 92182-5400

Tel: (619) 594-8170

(619) 594-3517 (Fax)

www.radioreadingservice.org

E-mail: kcabral@kpbs.org

Zak M. Topor, Director, (619) 594-8110,

ztopor@kpbs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the printed word to San Diego residents who are blind, physically disabled, or losing their vision.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: San Diego County.

Geographic area served: San Diego County.

Eligibility requirements: Physical limitation that affects ability to read.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Funded by: Endowments, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Staff: Director, 1 full-time staff member, 1 part-time staff person and over 130 volunteers.

Fee structure: Requested donation for radio. No one is denied service due to financial hardship.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Information and Referral: Offers referrals to all organizations that offer services to people who are blind in San Diego County.

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours daily within the San Diego County region with an emphasis on local interest news and publications (San Diego Union Tribune, North County Times, San Diego Weekly Reader, Los Angeles Times, and the Christian Science Monitor).

Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, San Francisco Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ National Library Service library**

Civic Center

100 Larkin Street

San Francisco, CA 94102

Tel: (415) 557-4253 (Voice mail)

(415) 557-4375 (Fax)

www.sfpl.org

E-mail: lbphmgr@sfpl.org

Martin Magid, Director, mmagid@sfpl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve San Francisco residents who are blind and print disabled as a subregional national library.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: San Francisco County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon./Thurs. 1:00 PM-6:00 PM, Tues./Wed. 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Fri. 12:00 PM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, variety of accessible equipment.

Clients served annually: 1,100.

Staff: Five full-time employees and three part-time pages. Legally blind brailist on staff.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provided via Project Read Literacy Program at San Francisco Public Library.

Information and Referral: Offers numerous library reference resources in blind/low vision areas.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Library Reproduction Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Alternate media producer**

14214 South Figueroa Street

Los Angeles, CA 90061-1034

Tel: (800) 255-5002

(310) 354-2610

(310) 354-2601 (Fax)

www.lrs-largeprint.com

E-mail: lrsprint@aol.com

Joan Hudson-Miller, President, lrsjhm@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide large-print reproductions and publications for visually impaired persons.

Established: 1945.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: USA and Canada.

Ages served: 6 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-3:30 PM. PST.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Fee structure: Price per title.

Publications: Large-print juvenile literature and classics.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Large-print, made-to-order reproductions of educational materials (K-adults) and publications of juvenile and adult titles. Catalog available on request at no charge. Publications for sale online.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (large print).

Types of content: Textbooks, educational materials, music, literature and materials for all ages.

The Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

214 Van Ness Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94102

Tel: (415) 431-1481

(415) 431-4572 (TDD/TTY)

(415) 863-7568 (Fax)

www.lighthouse-sf.org

E-mail: info@lighthouse-sf.org

Anita S. Aaron, Executive Director/Chief Executive

Officer, aaaron@lighthouse-sf.org

Kathy Abrahamson, Director of Rehabilitation Services,

kabrahamson@lighthouse-sf.org

Anthony Fletcher, Director of Community Services,

tfletcher@lighthouse-sf.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence, equality and self-reliance of people who are blind or visually impaired through rehabilitation training and relevant services, such as access to employment, education, government, information, recreation, transportation and the environment.

Established: 1902.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: Northern California.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment with specific program criteria.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-6:00 PM;

Tues.-Thur. 8:30 AM-7:00 PM; Sat. 10:00. Adaptations, the Lighthouse Store, is open Tues.-Fri. 11:00 AM-6:00 PM and Sat. 10:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 45. 45 employees plus summer counselors.

Volunteers available for reading, in-home personal assistance.

Fee structure: Fees vary.

Publications: The Lantern (newsletter), Infocus.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Fitness to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices, talking watches/clocks/thermometers, braille slates, magnifiers, bold-line paper, braille/large-print playing cards, various board games. Products for sale on site or via mail order.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides information and referral, intake evaluation, crisis intervention, workshops and seminars for families.

Education Services: Offers adult continuing education classes through San Francisco Community College, specializing in braille, arts/crafts, ceramics, and introductory typing.

Health/Fitness: Offers health and nutrition classes for older clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers workshops and seminars for professionals.

Recreation: Offers recreational and social programs for seniors and adults, including dances, field trips, and hot lunch on two weekdays. Operates Enchanted Hills Camp, a residential summer camp for children and adults.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills.

LOCAL OFFICES

Napa: 3410 Mt. Veeder Road, Napa, CA 94558

San Rafael: LightHouse of Marin, 1137 4th Street, San Rafael, CA 94901

Lions Blind Center of Diablo Valley

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

175 Alvarado Avenue

Pittsburg, CA 94565

Tel: (800) 750-3937

(925) 432-3013

(925) 432-7014 (Fax)

E-mail: lionsblindcenter@mindspring.com

Peggy Nichols, Executive Director

Edward Lee, Office Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop the self-confidence, independence and abilities of blind and visually impaired adults and act as a resource of information and expertise to the community.

Established: 1954.

County/District where located: Contra Costa County.

Geographic area served: Contra Costa County.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or severely visually impaired adults.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 3 full-time, 4 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: The Open Door (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, individual and group counseling, referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/ social work services.

Employment: Refers for employment services.

Information and Referral: Refers for other health services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers program for adult continuing education, cooking, crafts, bowling, fishing, field trips, and talking book discussion group.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, braille, handwriting, use of video magnifiers and electronic mobility aids, home management in client's home and community.

Lions Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3834 Opal Street
Oakland, CA 94609

Tel: (510) 450-1580

(510) 654-3603 (Fax)

www.oakland-blind-center.org

E-mail: gnat15@hotmail.com

Peggy Nichols, Acting Executive Director,

Peggy_Nichols@lbcenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, and developmentally disabled persons.

County/District where located: Alameda County.

Geographic area served: Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, Information and Referral, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides training in reading and writing braille and use of adaptive writing aids.

Counseling: Offers counseling/ social work services.

Employment: Provides job development and placement.

Information and Referral: Provides information to seniors to assist them in seeking needed services from other service providers, such as Social Security, doctors, in-home care services, medical services, University of California Low Vision Clinic, senior centers and retirement facilities.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training orientation and mobility skills.

Professional Training: Offers internship and supervised field work placement in orientation and mobility, social work, special education, and regular in-service training programs.

Recreation: Offers life enrichment programs, exercise, field trips, arts and crafts, hobby groups, programs for the elderly, and bowling.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal skills, home management, care of clothing, eating techniques, use of telephone, money management, banking and cooking.

Living Skills Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2430 Road 20 #B112

San Pablo, CA 94806-3704

Tel: (510) 234-4984

(510) 234-4986 (Fax)

E-mail: patty@livingskillscenter.org

Patricia Williams, Executive Director,
patty@livingskillscenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide visually impaired adults with individualized curriculum and in-home training in order to allow these consumers to take on adult responsibility and learn the skills necessary to live independent, full lives.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Contra Costa County.

Geographic area served: California.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, legal age, client of California Department of Rehabilitation Services. Accepts deaf-blind; additional disabilities considered on individual basis.

Ages served: 18 to 24.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage where needed.

Residential Facilities: Clients share apartments in the community.

Staff: 9 full-time.

Publications: APH: Beyond TV Dinners (cookbook); Skills Center Curriculum Guide; How to Succeed in College if You Are Visually Impaired; Safety Handbook.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides assertiveness training and referrals to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Provides prevocational evaluation and training, career/skill counseling, follow-up service. Places students in part-time volunteer and/or paid positions.

Health/Medical: Refers for medical services, assists in obtaining low vision evaluations and services, fosters medical awareness through evaluations.

Information and Referral: Provides extensive information and referral services via telephone.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers camping, skiing, sea kayaking, shopping, hiking, regular informal exercise program, jogging, swimming, and yoga.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in the following skills in client's home and community: personal and home management, signature writing, orientation and mobility, listening and vision, independent living, transition from college. Performs broad evaluations and provides training in areas of cooking, cleaning, care of clothing, social skills, personal hygiene.

Lutheran Braille Workers

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Monterey County Braille Transcribers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

225 Laurel Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Tel: (831) 394-2033

Dorothy Victorino, Chair, (831) 899-0835
Jean Broomhead, Co-chair, (831) 657-4187
Shirley Doolittle, Computer Embosser Expert
Margaret Parenti, Work Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Monterey County.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbook educational materials. Fiction and/or non-fiction books.

National Association for Visually Handicapped (NAVH)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Optometric Center of Los Angeles, Low Vision Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Southern California College of Optometry
3916 South Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90037
Tel: (818) 308-1628
(323) 234-9137
www.scco.edu/ecc/lowvision/lvhome.html

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Staff: Primary eye care optometrists, along with specialists in ocular diseases, low vision, vision therapy and contact lenses.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists people with low vision and their families in understanding the eye/vision disorder, how it affects vision and the ability to perform everyday activities.

Low Vision: Evaluates remaining vision to determine full potential and determines which techniques and devices will be most helpful in meeting goals. Prescribes different devices available for a person with low vision, including magnifiers, telescopes, microscopes (high plus lenses for reading), custom lighting, and a special television to magnify reading material and photographs. Provides training in their use. Prescribes custom-designed low vision devices.

Palomar College Adapted Computer Training Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1140 Mission Road
San Marcos, CA 92069
Tel: (760) 744-1150
(760) 471-8506 (TDD/TTY)
(760) 761-3509 (Fax)
www.palomar.edu

Ron Haines, Program Director, Disabled Students Programs and Services, rhaines@palomar.edu
Sherry Goldsmith, Computer Specialist, Disabled Students Programs and Services, sgoldsmith@palomar.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide training in the use of state-of-the-art assistive technology as well as current business software.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: North San Diego County.

Geographic area served: North San Diego County, south Riverside County.

Eligibility requirements: Students registered with the college and enrolled at the DRC department.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Mobility support on campus.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations, state funds.

Fee structure: \$26 per unit.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers informal assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance in assistive technology, universal design, and alternative media for community members and faculty members.

Counseling: Provides academic counseling for enrolled students.

Peninsula Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (PCBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

2470 El Camino Real

Suite 107

Palo Alto, CA 94306

Tel: (650) 858-0202

(650) 858-0214 (Fax)

www.pcbvi.org

E-mail: center@pcbvi.org

Pam Brandin, Executive Director

Nacole Barth-Ellis, Low Vision Clinic Director

Sharon Hudson, Director of Rehabilitation Services,

(650) 858-0857 (Fax), shudson@pcbvi.org

Jo Jaros, Social Services Supervisor, (650) 858-0857

(Fax), jjaros@pcbvi.org

Paul Raskin, Instructional Services Supervisor, (650)

858-0857 (Fax), praskin@pcbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable clients to achieve their highest potential through programs that promote independence and improve their quality of life.

Established: 1936.

County/District where located: Santa Clara County.

Geographic area served: San Mateo, Santa Clara, and San Benito Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired residents of Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Benito Counties.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$2,000,000.

Clients served annually: 1200.

Staff: Staff includes living skills specialists, O&M specialists, an employment specialist, computer instructors, counselors, social workers, low vision optometrists, a low vision assistant, a community outreach coordinator, health library volunteers, and management staff.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

Publications: Insight (newsletter); Shared Visions (client newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Provides initial assessment in client's home to determine needs.

Assistive Products: Low vision devices and canes.

Community Outreach Programs: Speakers give presentations about agency services to other organizations and classrooms.

Computer Training: Computer training is offered to students of all ages and at all levels of competency, using access technology. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, Internet access, financial management.

Counseling: Offers individual and peer counseling and support groups.

Employment: Provides job development/job placement, including development of career goals, job search strategies, recruitment, education and training, placement, and worksite assessment.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to other sources in the community.

Library: Maintains the Health Library at PCBVI, a branch of the Stanford Hospital Library, with books about scientifically based information about vision loss and rehabilitation. Volunteers do online searches for medical information for those who are blind or visually impaired.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation with demonstration of optical aids and referrals to other PCBVI services. Prescribes and orders low vision devices and provides training in their use. Offers a low vision education class, Choices and Changes.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service professional training and internships for master's degree program participants desiring credentials in orientation and mobility or daily living skills.

Rehabilitation: Contracts with school districts in Santa Clara County to provide to students. Provides training in personal management, medical management, home

management, recreational, social, daily living, and communication skills, including braille.

Support Groups: Offers support groups for seniors.

Volunteer Services: Trained volunteers provide one on one assistance to clients.

Prevent Blindness Northern California

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

4200 California Street
Suite 101

San Francisco, CA 94118-1367

Tel: (800) 338-3041 (In northern California only)

(530) 243-0410

(530) 243-0430 (Fax)

www.eyefinfo.org

E-mail: pbnoca@aol.com

Barbara Cox, Executive Director, bcox@eyefinfo.org

Debora Babe, RN, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide vision screening, as well as school, farm, home, sports, and industrial eye safety programs. Organization educates communities on preventable causes of blindness.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: Northern California.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM or by special arrangement.

Accessibility: Services given in the community, so facility accessibility varies.

Staff: More than 400 volunteers in addition to staff in vision screening programs.

Fee structure: All services free except bulk orders of publications and professional education classes.

Publications: Coping with Sight Loss in Northern California (a 100-page large-print directory on services for people with sight loss). Home Eye Test for Preschoolers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Advice on Living with Sight Loss.

Health/Medical: Performs vision screening aimed at early detection and prevention for preschool children. Maintains adult vision screening clinics aimed at populations at high risk for vision problems such as glaucoma.

Information and Referral: Provides information via phone call-in, website and publications like Coping

with Sight Loss in Northern California. Provides farm, sports, home, and industrial eye safety curricula, materials, and videotapes.

Professional Training: Offers CE Units for nurses concerned with children's vision problems.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Redding: 1430 Butte Street, Redding, CA 96001, pbrdg@pacbell.net, Melinda Santos, Director

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Inland Empire/Orange County Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1844-C West 11th Street

Upland, CA 94306

Tel: (909) 949-4316

(909) 981-8457 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: mtupman@rfbd.org

Mike Davis, Executive Director

Maggie Tupman, Educational Outreach Director, (909)

949-9976, mtupman@rfbd.org

Sherry Weekes, Studio Director, sweekes@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational materials, such as textbooks and reference materials, to people who cannot effectively read standard print.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: San Bernardino County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability, or other physical disability, which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible.

Ages served: 5 to 90.

Fee structure: \$65 sign-up fee, \$35 annual membership fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference materials.

Library: Maintains educational library with over 80,000 taped textbooks, reference, and professional materials.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Santa Ana: Orange County Studio, 2021 East Street, Suite 114, Santa Ana, CA 92705, mahrens@rfbd.org, Maureen Ahrens, Studio Director

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Los Angeles Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5022 Hollywood Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90027

Tel: (800) 732-8398

(323) 664-5525

(323) 664-1881 (Fax)

www.rfbdl.org

E-mail: los_angeles@rfbdl.org

Carol Smith, Executive Director, cesmith@rfbdl.org

Melanie Dupre, Senior Production Supervisor, Reseda Studio, (818) 654-2747

Anne Harrison, Senior Production Supervisor, Hollywood Studio, aharrison@rfbdl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Southern California.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks.

Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Sat., days and evenings.

Clients served annually: Nationally over 126,000.

Staff: A mix of staff and volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes 4-track tape players and other equipment for use of taped textbooks. Digital playback devices and software, desktop and handheld options.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, large print, NISO/Daisy e-books).

Types of content: Textbooks.

Community Outreach Programs: Visits area schools to educate teachers and students about services and provide instruction on how to use 4-track players, digital playback devices and software.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Redondo Beach: South Bay Studio, 1310 Kingsdale Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, Dan Holt, Senior Production Supervisor

Reseda: San Fernando Valley Studio, 6860 Canby Avenue, Suite 111, Reseda, CA 91335, Becky Christiansen, Production Director

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Northern California Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

488 West Charleston Road

Palo Alto, CA 94306

Tel: (650) 493-3717

www.rfbdl.org

E-mail: info@rfbdl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability—including a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible—are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: All reading/recording done by volunteers.

Fee structure: Please see www.rfbdl.org.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape).

Types of content: Educational materials. Has an Electronic Text (E-Text) program.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Santa Barbara Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5638 Hollister Avenue
Suite 210

Goleta, CA 93117

Tel: (805) 681-0531

(805) 681-0532 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org/

E-mail: info@rfbd.org

Tim Owens, Executive Director, towens@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Santa Barbara County.

Geographic area served: Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Kern Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability, or other physical disability, which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM; Fri. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM; Sat. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Fee structure: \$50 sign-up fee, \$25 annual membership fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference works.

Library: Maintains educational library with over 80,000 taped textbooks, reference, and professional materials.

RP International

See U.S. National Organizations.

Sacramento Braille Transcribers, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

2791 24th Street

Room 8

Sacramento, CA 95818

Tel: (916) 455-9121

Marilyn L. Dickey, Brailist, Placer County Office of Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: Primarily California; other states on request.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

St. Mary Low Vision Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1055 Linden Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90813

Tel: (562) 491-9275

(562) 491-9934 (Fax)

Debbie L. Cortez, Supervisor, O.A.C., (562) 491-9836,

D2Cortez@CHW.EDU.COM

Florence Traub, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote continuing education for ophthalmologists and quality care in ophthalmology.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Written referral from ophthalmologist or optometrist.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, by appointment only.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, elevator.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides braille instruction upon request.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Health/Medical: Sponsors the National Eye Care Project to give free eye care to the elderly.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to local linkage agencies. Publishes informational material for professionals and the public.

Library: Processes talking book applications.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Offers independent living classes on an ongoing basis and orientation and mobility training on a limited basis.

San Bernardino Valley Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

762 North Sierra Way

San Bernardino, CA 92410

Tel: (909) 884-3121

(909) 884-2964 (Fax)

www.lighthouse4theblind.org/door/

E-mail: lighthouse4blind@AOL.COM

Robert G. McBay, Executive Director

Sandra Ann Wood, Administrative Assistant,
Administration

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the independent daily living skills of legally and totally blind students.

Established: 1951.

County/District where located: San Bernardino County.

Geographic area served: San Bernardino and surrounding area.

Eligibility requirements: Legally and totally blind.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: Comprehensive brochure.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices and games. Products on sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Counseling: Provides counseling.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other appropriate agencies.

Library: Maintains a library of braille and talking books.

Low Vision: Conducts professional low vision examinations. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Reading Services: San Bernardino Sun.

San Diego Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

5922 El Cajon Boulevard

San Diego, CA 92115

Tel: (619) 583-1542 (North County office (760) 758-5956)

(619) 583-2335 (Fax)

www.sdcdb.org/

E-mail: information@sdcb.org

Kim Gibbens, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To rehabilitate blind and vision impaired individuals so they might reach their highest level of independence and self-reliance.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: San Diego County.

Geographic area served: San Diego County.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to persons with disabilities.

The building has received national recognition regarding the accessibility design features.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$1,300,000.

Clients served annually: 1,200.

Staff: 32 paid staff, 100+ volunteers.

Publications: Quarterly Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family, and outreach counseling.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, typing, computer skills, handwriting, resource information, sensory awareness, clothing construction, kitchen skills, transition to community, English as a second language.

FIELD OFFICES

Vista: 1385 Bonair Road, Vista, CA 92084-4164

San Francisco State University: Department of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Department of Special Education

1600 Holloway Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94132

Tel: (415) 338-1161 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(415) 338-0566 (Fax)

www.sfsu.edu/~spedcd/

E-mail: spedcd@sfsu.edu

Nicholas J. Certo, Department Chair

Amanda Hall-Lueck, Coordinator, Program in Visual Impairment, Department of Special Education,
amandal@sfsu.edu

Sandra Rosen, Coordinator, Program in Orientation and Mobility, Department of Special Education,
srosen@sfsu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide graduate level pre-service and in-service specialist training.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: San Francisco County.

Geographic area served: Northern California.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM; 1:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Fee structure: California State University.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Offers various programs leading to education specialist credentials, clinical rehabilitative services credentials, SFSU certificates, a Master of Arts in Special Education and a Master of Science in Communicative Disorders. Also offers a Joint Doctoral Program with SFSU and U.C. Berkeley is offered. Distance learning program is available in the Visually Impaired Program area.

Santa Barbara Schools/High School Districts: Program for Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

720 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Tel: (805) 687-0761 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(805) 898-4472 (Fax)

Janice W. Ross, Chair, Program for Visually Impaired,
jajimeg@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Santa Barbara County.

Geographic area served: South Santa Barbara County.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that adversely affects the educational program.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Public school hours.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Public funds.

Staff: 4 full-time teachers, 2 instructional assistants, administrative support.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses for Santa Barbara school programs.

Audiodescription: Provides audiodescription for school functions.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Early Intervention: Oversees an individually designed program for early intervention.

Education Services: Provides instruction and services as designated by an IEP team to students in the district who are blind or visually impaired.

Parent Assistance: Assists parents within the school district.

Preschool: Assists visually impaired students in local private preschools and in county special education classes.

Santa Clara Valley Blind Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

101 North Bascom Avenue
San Jose, CA 95128

Tel: (408) 295-4016

(408) 295-1398 (Fax)

www.visionbeyondsight.org

E-mail: info@visionbeyondsight.org

Kenneth Frasse, Executive Director,
kfrasse@visionbeyondsight.org

Michael Beamer, Finance Director,
mbeamer@visionbeyondsight.org

Nancy Campisi, Volunteer Supervisor,
nancy@visionbeyondsight.org

Caroline Haskin, Program Director,
chaskin@visionbeyondsight.org

Gloria James, Office Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help the blind and sight impaired realize their visions.

Established: 1953.

County/District where located: Santa Clara County.

Geographic area served: Santa Clara Valley.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, In-Home Services, Orientation and Mobility to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells white canes, talking watches and clocks, braille paper, and large print games.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides braille instruction through client volunteers.

Health/Fitness: Offers low impact classes and walking groups.

In-Home Services: Volunteers are available to assist with household chores and shopping.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers one-on-one training in proper cane use and guide techniques. Instructor assesses client's home for safety and ease of functioning and provides information on adaptive products and services.

Reading Services: Volunteers are available as readers to help clients with mail and paperwork.

Recreation: Offers monthly field trips, dance classes, self-defense, bingo, ceramics classes, and bowling.

Rehabilitation: Offers classes in cooking, Spanish, sewing, English as a second language, braille, computer training.

Support Groups: Offers support groups at local senior residences.

Scripps Memorial Hospital: Mericos Eye Institute, Partial Vision Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

9888 Genesee Avenue

La Jolla, CA 92037

Tel: (858) 626-6571

(858) 626-6560 (Fax)

www.scrippshealth.org/Services.asp?ID=19

Pat Burwick, RN Manager, (858) 626-6525,

burwick.pat@scrippshealth.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision evaluation, low vision devices, and training in their use.

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: San Diego County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap access.

Fee structure: No charge for consultations. All low vision devices are at cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells magnifiers of all types, large-print items, TV magnifiers, closed-circuit televisions, clocks, and watches. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Information and Referral: Refers to low vision doctor if needed or to other community agencies. Free brochures provided on request. Community seminars.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides on-site training and referral services.

Sensory Access Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1142 West Evelyn Avenue

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Tel: (408) 245-7330

(408) 245-1001 (TDD/TTY)

(408) 245-3762 (Fax)

www.sensoryaccess.com/

Diane L. Drews, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities to people who are blind or visually impaired, through the use of access technology.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone who is blind or visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV.

Education Services: Operates a computer camp for kids who are blind or visually impaired. These camps are one week in duration and designed to teach participants about computers and access technology.

Employment: Offers a training program customized to the individual's needs or job requirements. The training is provided at the SAF facility, in the workplace, in the school, or in the home environment. Offers

Customer / Administrative Skills Training program, a one-of-a-kind training program designed specifically to train individuals in the fields of customer and administrative services. Performs on-site evaluation and job task analyses to identify appropriate access technology for specific needs.

Information and Referral: Offers an information and referral program that includes the publication technology update, a periodical focusing on new developments in access technology for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Professional Training: Teaches rehabilitation professionals from around the United States about technology and employment for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Rehabilitation: Offers hands-on testing, demonstration and evaluation of computer access aids for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Sequoia Braille Transcribers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

2730 West Seeger Avenue

Visalia, CA 93277

Tel: (559) 732-1912

Jacquie Walker, Director, (559) 562-2779, (559) 562-2939
(Fax), jkwkr@ocsnet.net

Edith Pannell, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide braille to the blind as requested.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Tulare County.

Geographic area served: Mainly Tulare County, anyone requesting braille.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Staff: All volunteers.

Fee structure: Fees variable.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks, recreational fiction, religious materials.

The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute: Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (SKERI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Society for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2750 24th Street

Sacramento, CA 95818

Tel: (916) 452-8271

(916) 452-2622 (Fax)

www.societyfortheblind.org

Kevin Duggan, Executive Director,

kduggan@societyfortheblind.org

Alan Frank, Instructional Program Manager,

afrank@societyfortheblind.org

Violeta L. Tagle, Staff Accountant/HR Manager,

vtagle@societyfortheblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1954.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Society Pages.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes hand-held magnifiers, illuminated magnifiers, illuminated pocket magnifiers, handles for Eschenbach stand illuminated magnifying lens, half-eye reading glasses, bulbs for Eschenbach and magnifiers, solar shields, fitovers, lap desks, monocular telescopes, canes and accessories, electronic clocks, watches and timers, labeling and marking bold line and braille paper slates and stylus writing kitchen products, household tools, playing cards and games, large print address books and other large-print and braille books, large print and braille calendars. Products for sale on site and online.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers training in all levels of braille, from beginning to advanced.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other services and organizations that can help people live independently with blindness and low vision.

Low Vision: Provides comprehensive low vision evaluations and assistance in selecting optical devices. Maintains the largest collection of low vision devices in California. Clinic provides a wide range of the latest

high technology devices to assist people with limited vision. Provides training in how to use different devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Support for Youth Enrichment Program process.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills and adaptive computers skills.

Support Groups: Offers support group for adjustment to blindness, families and for those with diabetes-related visual impairments.

Southern California College of Optometry: Low Vision Rehabilitation Service at the Eye Care Center of Fullerton

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Research organization

2575 Yorba Linda Boulevard

Fullerton, CA 92831-1699

Tel: (714) 449-7415

(714) 992-7848 (Fax)

www.scco.edu/

Rebecca Kammer, Chief of Low Vision Services, (714)

449-4743, rkammer@scco.edu

Trish Astbury, Service Secretary, tastbury@scco.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a thorough optometric low vision evaluation with the end goals of providing optical devices and services and/or referrals for comprehensive rehabilitation and to improve independence and patient quality of life.

Established: 1904.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Ages served: 0 to 106.

Hours of operation: Tues. 8:00 AM-6:00 PM; Wed. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM; Thurs. 11:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Fee structure: Accepts several insurance programs. Fees for services are \$230.00 including both a comprehensive dilated eye exam and a full low vision evaluation involving 2-3 visits for those without insurance and government program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists people with low vision and their families in understanding the eye/vision disorder, how it affects vision, and the ability to perform everyday activities.

Low Vision: Evaluates remaining vision to determine full potential and determines which techniques and devices will be most helpful in meeting goals. Prescribes different devices available for a person with low vision, including magnifiers, telescopes, microscopes (high plus lenses for reading), custom

lighting, and a special television to magnify reading material and photographs. Provides training in their use. Prescribes custom-designed low vision devices.

Talking Book Library for the Blind, Fresno County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

Ted Wills Community Center

770 North San Pablo

Fresno, CA 93728-3640

Tel: (800) 742-1011 (Toll free in California)

(559) 488-3217

(559) 488-1642 (TDD/TTY)

(559) 488-1971 (Fax)

www.fresnolibrary.org/tblb

Wendy Eisenberg, Librarian,

Wendy.Eisenberg@fresnolibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines on cassette tape to the blind, visually impaired, and physically disabled.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Fresno County.

Geographic area served: Fresno, Madera, Kings, and Tulare Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Accessibility: All areas accessible.

Clients served annually: 1650.

Staff: 6.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services, Reading Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books and magazines on audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Newslines for the Blind System available: over 100 papers available to listen to over a toll-free phone number.

Therapeutic Living Centers for the Blind (TLC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Residential facility**

7915 Lindley Avenue

Reseda, CA 91335

Tel: (818) 708-1740

(818) 708-7899 (Fax)

www.tlc4blind.org/

E-mail: info@tlc4blind.org

Ford Neale, Executive Director, fneale@tlc4blind.org

Lisa Barker, Day Program Director,

lbarker@tlc4blind.org

Amy Corman, Human Resources Director

Cyndi McAuley, Program Development,

cmcauley@tlc4blind.org

Lynn Robinson, Executive Director, TLC Foundation,

lr4tlc@aol.com

Scott Stella, Residential Director

Tony Wilcox, Operations Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide for the lifetime needs of individuals challenged with developmental disabilities and blindness.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: TLC provides services for all California residents.

Eligibility requirements: Eligibility requirements established by the California Department of Developmental Services and Medi-Cal.

Ages served: 6 to 65.

Hours of operation: TLC's residential program provides services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The day program operates between 9 AM-3:30 PM. Afterschool hours are 2:00 PM-6:30 PM and the Saturday program runs from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Meets ADA requirements.

Residential Facilities: Operates eleven ICF-DD-H and two community care residential facilities for individuals with special needs.

Clients served annually: 175.

Staff: 130.

Fee structure: As funded by Individual Program Plan.

Publications: Communique and New Visions (available upon request).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers Individual Program Planning that involves an assessment and goal-setting process by an Interdisciplinary Team (ID Team) within a person-centered approach.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Recreation services are integral to all of TLC's programs and include art, music, swimming, horseback riding, and community-based activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in such areas as computers, daily living skills, gardening, music, vocational skills, and communication.

Transcribers of Orange County

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

10982 Paddock Lane
Santa Ana, CA 92705
Tel: (714) 731-5899

Alice Schultz, Assignment Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe materials into braille.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Private donations.

Fee structure: Charge for materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Books and other materials.

University of California, San Francisco: Beckman Vision Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

ACC Building
400 Parnassus Avenue
Seventh Floor
San Francisco, CA 94143
Tel: (415) 353-2800 (Adult Eye Care)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Offers comprehensive eye care.

Low Vision: Offers adult and pediatric examinations. Provides eyeglass prescriptions, contact lens services, optical dispensing, and management of eye diseases.

University of California: School of Optometry, Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

200 Minor Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-2020
Tel: (510) 642-5726
(510) 643-5109 (Fax)
www.caleyecare.org

Robert B. Greer, Chief of Low Vision Services,
rbgreer@uclink.berkeley.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide clinical low vision training for optometrists.

Established: 1960.

County/District where located: Alameda County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Tues. and Thurs. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: Optometrists, optometry residents, special educators, low vision mobility specialists.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts comprehensive assessments of visual capabilities for all ages, visual/educational assessments for children with special needs, adaptive technology evaluations for visual disabilities, educational assessments within special vision assessment clinic for disabled children, and mobility assessments.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Support Groups: Offers peer support group for adults.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

VA Palo Alto HCS (124)
3801 Miranda Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304
Tel: (650) 858-3921
(650) 852-3472 (Fax)
www.palo-alto.med.va.gov/
E-mail: elizabeth.jessen@med.va.gov

Elizabeth L. Jessen, Director,
elizabeth.jessen@med.va.gov

Candance Thelen, Visual Impairment Service Team
Coordinator, (650) 493-5000,
Candace.Thelen@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To address the expressed needs of blinded veterans so they may successfully reintegrate back into the community and family environment. To accomplish this mission, the WBRC offers a comprehensive, individualized adjustment training program along with those services deemed necessary for a person to achieve a realistic level of independence.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Santa Clara County.

Geographic area served: California, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Nevada, Hawaii.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind veterans who meet eligibility requirement to receive service through the VA.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps and van. Accessible rooms, some braille signage, large-print items. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 32-bed residential program.

Single room with shared bathroom.

Clients served annually: 260.

Staff: 37. Optometrist, optometry students and residents, low vision specialist, social worker, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teachers, psychologist, manual skills instructor, rehabilitation counselors, audiologist, computer access training instructors and specialist, recreation therapist.

Fee structure: Depending on eligibility, either no fee or nominal co-payment.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts full assessment of rehabilitation needs of blind individuals.

Computer Training: Individualized Computer Access Training. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers counseling by clinical psychologist and social worker.

Health/Medical: Offers health education and training in self-medication.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Recreation: Provides services of a recreation therapist.

Rehabilitation: Provides blind rehabilitation tailored to individual physical and mental capabilities and needs.

Valley Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4421 North Cedar
Suite 200

Fresno, CA 93726

Tel: (559) 222-4447

(559) 222-4844 (Fax)

E-mail: valleycntrblind@aol.com

Russell Hoeltzer, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Fresno County.

Eligibility requirements: Totally blind, legally blind, severely visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation; peer support groups; individual, group, family / parent counseling. Provides referral to community services, refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling / social work services.

Employment: Refers for employment services.

Health/Fitness: Offers therapeutic recreation activities.

Professional Training: Offers placement in training and regular in-service training programs; open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, special programs for elderly, bowling, swimming, fishing.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, gesticulation, video magnifier, home management.

Ventura County Braille Transcribers Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

820 Trinidad Way

Ventura, CA 93033

Tel: (805) 488-1347

Arlene McKim, President, Arlenemc03@hotmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Ventura County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, diskette). **Types of content:** Recipe cards and other materials requested by clients.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center: Eye Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

11301 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90073

Tel: (310) 268-3396

(310) 268-4806 (Fax)

Gary N. Holland, MD, Chief, Ophthalmology Clinic

Dr. David Bright, Optometry Department

Jane Merrill, Low Vision, (310) 268-4654

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired veterans.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers counseling.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.
Professional Training: Offers on-site training.

Volunteers of Vacaville

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

P.O. Box 670
 Vacaville, CA 95696
 Tel: (707) 448-6841

Michael Grossjan, Corrections Officer / Project Director,
 Blind Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality book transcriptions / duplications and Perkin's braille repair service at a nominal cost to all clients.

Established: 1960.

Fee structure: Repair of Perkins braille: approx. \$55; minimum of \$25 for cleaning and lubricating.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Library: Maintains a library of over 2000 Books on Tape.

Watts Health Care Corporation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

10300 Compton Avenue
 Los Angeles, CA 90002
 Tel: (323) 564-4331
 (323) 567-5729 (Fax)

Shelia Fair, Chief, Vision Care Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To build and maintain individual, group, and community health and well-being.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: South central Los Angeles.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Provides comprehensive eye examinations and referrals for low vision evaluations.

WestEd Center for Prevention and Early Intervention

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

1107 Ninth Street, 4th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: (916) 492-4000

(916) 492-4002 (Fax)

www.wested.org/cpei

E-mail: eprovan@wested.org

Virginia Reynolds, Program Director,
vreynol@wested.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Sacramento County.

Geographic area served: California.

Ages served: 0 to 22.

Additional information: WestEd CPEI does not provide direct services to clients. It is a training, technical assistance, and resource development non-profit agency.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Sponsors training, provides references and support to professionals and families for early intervention services.

Professional Training: Provides training related to Parts B and C of IDEA to professionals.

Colorado

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Colorado Department of Human Services:
Division of Aging and Adult Services
(800) 773-1366

Colorado Department of Human Services:
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
(303) 866-4150

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Colorado Department of Education
(303) 866-6600

Educational Services

Colorado Department of Education
(303) 866-6600

Instructional Materials Center

Colorado Instructional Materials Center for
the Visually Handicapped
(719) 578-2196

Rehabilitation Services

Colorado Department of Human Services:
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
(303) 866-4150

School for the Blind

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind
(719) 578-2100

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Quik-Scribe
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Denver Unit

Educational Agencies

Cherry Creek School District

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Anchor Center for Blind Children

Information/Referral Centers

Center for Independence

Libraries

Colorado Talking Book Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Center for Independence
Colorado Optometric Center

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

United States Association for Blind Athletes

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Colorado Optometric Association
Colorado Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

National Organizations

Challenge Aspen
United States Association for Blind Athletes

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Northern Colorado

Radio Reading Stations

Radio Reading Service of the Rockies

Rehabilitation Agencies

Center for Independence
Easter Seals Colorado
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths
and Adults: Rocky Mountain Region Office

Schools for the Blind

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind

Anchor Center for Blind Children**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Infant/preschool agency**

3801 Martin Luther King Boulevard

Denver, CO 80205

Tel: (303) 377-9732

(303) 377-9744 (Fax)

www.anchorcenter.org/index.html

Alice H. Applebaum, Director,

aapplebaum@anchorcenter.org

JC Greeley, Program Coordinator,

jgreeley@anchorcenter.org

Edie Smith, Family Resource Coordinator,

esmith@anchorcenter.org

Cynthia J. Wadle, Business Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To teach life skills to young children with visual impairments and provide services for their families.

Established: 1982.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Birth to 5 years old with visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Budget: \$900,000.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 2 full-time, 15 part-time.

Fee structure: \$60/month toddlers; \$120/month.

Publications: Anchor Line (semiannual). News Notes for Parents (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision examinations and play-based assessment for all children.

Community Outreach Programs: Has a birth-to-5 outreach program throughout Colorado.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and assistance in rural areas throughout Colorado and to other programs.

Counseling: Provides support to parents.

Early Intervention: Provides assessments and offers home-based instruction and classroom program for visually impaired infants and children, 0-3 years.

Health/Medical: Provides referrals for hearing exams or genetic counseling.

Parent Assistance: Conducts monthly parent group meetings.

Preschool: Provides classroom instruction in all developmental areas three days a week for 3-5 year olds.

State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology Partners

Assistive Technology Partners**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **State technology program**

1245 E. Colfax Avenue, Suite 200

Denver, CO 80218

Tel: (800) 255-3477 (In Colorado only)

(303) 315-1280

(303) 837-8964 (TDD/TTY)

(303) 837-1208 (Fax)

www.uchsc.edu/atp/

E-mail: miya.adams@uchsc.edu

Cathy Bodine, University Instructor/Project Director,
Pediatrics, University of Colorado Health Sciences
Center, cathy.bodine@uchsc.edu

Julia Beems, Outreach Coordinator,
julia.beems@uchsc.edu

Diane Brians, Assistive Technology Specialist,
diane.brians@uchsc.edu

Maureen Melonis, Assistant Director, Training and
Education Coordinator,
maureen.melonis@uchsc.edu

Jim Sandstrum, Business Services Coordinator,
Assistive Technology Specialist,
jim.sandstrum@uchsc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To reduce barriers to the understanding and use of adaptive technologies for persons with disabilities.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Denver County.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: People with disabilities, their families and professionals who work with them.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: Fees vary.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly), Fast Facts, Tech Topics.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Recreation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment services to other agencies.

Computer Training: Provides training to seniors in use of assistive technology. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to agencies and individuals.

Information and Referral: Provides information in braille and large-print formats about assistive technologies via web site. Answers questions concerning organization's products and services.

Professional Training: Offers training to professionals who provide early intervention services.

Recreation: Offers training sessions in the use of assistive technology in recreation.

Center for Independence

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

1600 Ute Avenue

Suite 100

Grand Junction, CO 81501

Tel: (800) 613-2271

(970) 241-0315

(970) 241-8130 (TDD/TTY)

(970) 245-3341 (Fax)

Diana H. Martinez, Outreach Independent Living Specialist/Coordinator of Visually Impaired or Legally Blind Program, dmartinez@cfigj.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To positively affect attitudes and opportunities within the community through direct services, training, advocacy, and community, education, promoting accessibility for all and encouraging people with significant disabilities to live independently.

Established: 1982.

Geographic area served: 13 counties within 40,000 square miles on the Western Slope of Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Person with a disability.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 AM-5:00 PM; Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Budget: \$711,386.

Clients served annually: 1100.

Staff: 18. 68% of staff have disabilities. Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Financial Director, Records Manager, Independent Living Specialists.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

Additional information: The four core services provided by Center for Independence include personal and systems advocacy, information and referral, peer counseling and support, and independent living skills training. The basis of Center for Independence is peer relationships—people with disabilities assisting others with disabilities as role models, mentors, and advocates. Center for Independence is governed by people with disabilities and upholds the independent living philosophy that consumers have the right to

self-determination, the right to live their lives independently and with dignity, to their fullest potential.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Does needs assessment, home demonstration of devices (magnifiers, sunglasses, CCTVs) and marking of home appliances, advocacy for available resources, braille instruction and materials.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists businesses and individuals with information about the Americans with Disabilities Act and accessibility guidelines.

Counseling: Provides peer counseling and support services.

Employment: Provides training in vocational skills (computers, keyboarding, resume writing, and job preparation). Assists job seekers with disabilities in using available systems that provide services and supports needed to obtain and maintain employment.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services within service region.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Organizes activities such as exercising, touring, swimming, hiking, canoeing, hay rides, bowling and various crafts.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills, sighted guide and mobility training.

Challenge Aspen

See U.S. National Organizations.

Cherry Creek School District

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Educational agency

1855 South Joliet

Aurora, CO 80012

Tel: (720) 747-2918

(720) 747-2988 (Fax)

www.ccsd.k12.co.us/

Carol Berry, Teacher of Visually Impaired, Orientation and Mobility, cberry7@cherrycreekschools.org

Barbara Galgano, Teacher of Visually Impaired and Orientation and Mobility, bgalgano@cherrycreekschools.org

Karen Jamison, Teacher of Visually impaired,
Orientation and Mobility,
kjamison@cherrycreekschools.org
Carol Potashnick, Certified Braille Transcriber,
cpotashnick@cherrycreekschools.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To foster the unique potential of children who are visually impaired, deaf-blind or blind/multichallenged, by providing exemplary education, therapy, and family support services.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Arapahoe County.

Geographic area served: Cherry Creek School district.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Staff: 4 certified teachers of visually impaired serving 0-21 population.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers functional vision assessments and orientation and mobility assessments to students and provides itinerant vision support to students.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides each student with a literacy modality plan.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides itinerant support for children in district preschool programs and home support for families.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides counseling and a variety of support and related services to parents.

Education Services: Provides instruction in developmental and compensatory areas related to vision.

Parent Assistance: Support given to all parents of visually impaired students.

Colorado Department of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State educational services

201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203
Tel: (303) 866-6600
(303) 866-7060 (TDD/TTY)
(303) 866-6811 (Fax)
www.cde.state.co.us

Tanni L. Anthony, State Consultant on Visual Impairment, Exceptional Student Services Unit, Special Education Services Unit, (303) 866-6681, anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
Susan Smith, Part C Coordinator, (303) 866-6709, (303) 866-6662 (Fax), smith_s@cde.state.co.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase achievement levels for all students through comprehensive programs of educational reform emphasizing high standards for student learning, tough assessment of whether or not students meet standards, and rigorous accountability measures that tie the accreditation of school districts to high student achievement.

County/District where located: Denver County.

Geographic area served: State of Colorado.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is accessible.

Staff: 35 staff specific to special education. State consultants in all disability areas, parent assistance, alternate assessment, early childhood, and secondary transition.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Guidelines for Literacy Modality Assessment; 0-5 Vision Screening Guidelines; newsletters on deaf-blindness orientation and mobility training, teaching of the visually impaired. The department also has a multitude of other items specific to other disabilities than blindness/low vision or deaf-blindness.

Additional information: Organization is site for the Colorado Services for Children with Vision and Hearing Loss Project.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessment services specific to visual impairment via state vision consultant.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Establishes guidelines on literacy modality assessment and planning.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to Colorado teachers/service providers working with visually impaired and deaf-blind individuals and visual screening guidelines/training assistance, and consultation to schools.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Colorado's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Provides statewide early intervention assistance for visually impaired, birth to age 2.

Education Services: Provides technical assistance for local school districts in Colorado. Funds instructional materials center providing alternate format educational materials.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services throughout Colorado pertinent to individuals with visual impairments.

Library: Has a lending library specific to deaf-blindness.

Professional Training: Holds an annual state conference on visual impairment, annual summer institute on deaf-blindness, and an annual orientation and mobility workshop.

Colorado Department of Human Services: Division of Aging and Adult Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

1575 Sherman Street
10th Floor
Denver, CO 80203
Tel: (800) 773-1366 (Adult Protection and Elder Rights)
(303) 866-2800
(303) 866-2696 (Fax)
www.state.co.us
E-mail: violamcneace@state.co.us

Jeanette Hensley, Director, Aging and Adult Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower older adults, individuals with disabilities and others with special needs to live safely and maximize personal independence by planning and promoting an effective, integrated, accessible system for the delivery of financial and medical support, and other supportive services.

County/District where located: Denver.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Depends on program.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Colorado Department of Human Services: Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

1575 Sherman Street
Fourth Floor
Denver, CO 80203
Tel: (303) 866-4150
(303) 866-4905 (Fax)
www.cdhs.state.co.us/ods/dvr/index.html
E-mail: debbie.powell@state.co.us
Kenneth Schmidt, Ph.D., Administrator of Field Services
Christine Thomas, Acting Director, Vocational Rehabilitation
Carol Tyson, Program Administrator, Independent Living Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals with physical and/or mental disabilities to attain a level of functioning that will enable them to enter, reenter, or maintain employment and enhance skills necessary for living independently.

County/District where located: Denver County.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that interferes with employment or independent living.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Offers vocational evaluation and individual counseling. Contracts and refers for other services.

Employment: Offers prevocational evaluations, occupational skill development, vocational training, placement, follow-up service, and vending stand training. Contracts for other services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement and in-service programs in orientation and mobility and rehabilitation counseling and teaching.

Recreation: Offers special programs for elderly, deaf-blind, blind and deaf persons.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening, typing, home management, skills and in the use of video magnifiers in client's home and community. Contracts and refers for other rehabilitation services. Provides independent living services for adults age 55 and older.

LOCAL OFFICES

Alamosa: Division of Rehabilitation, 422 Fourth Street, P.O. Box 990, Alamosa, CO 81101

Boulder: 207 Canyon Boulevard, Suite 202, Boulder, CO 80302

Colorado Springs: Division of Rehabilitation, 1322 North Academy Boulevard, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-3316

Denver: Rehabilitation Center, 2211 West Evans Avenue, Denver, CO 80223

Denver: Services for Individuals Who Are Blind or Deaf, 600 Grant Street, Suite 302, Denver, CO 80203

Denver: Two Denver Highlands Building, 10065 East Harvard, Suite 809, Denver, CO 80231

Durango: 425 West Building, 835 Second Avenue, Durango, CO 81301

Fort Collins: Division of Rehabilitation, 2850 McClelland Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525

Fort Morgan: 625 West Platte Avenue, Fort Morgan, CO 80701

Glenwood Springs: Executive Plaza, 1512 Grand Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Golden: Human Service Building, Suite 290, 900 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden, CO 80401

Grand Junction: Division of Rehabilitation, 222 South Sixth Street, Room 215, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Greeley: Division of Rehabilitation, 822 Seventh Street, Suite 4, Greeley, CO 80631

Lamar: Cedar Main Building, 1006 South Main Street, Lamar, CO 81052

Limon: PO Box 910, 820 Second Street, Limon, CO 80828

Littleton: 609 West Littleton Boulevard, Suite 100, Littleton, CO 80120

Longmont: 1707 North Main Street, Suite 302, Longmont, CO 80501

Montrose: 1010 South Cascade Avenue, Montrose, CO 81401

Northglenn: 11990 Grant Street, Suite 201, Northglenn, CO 80233

Pueblo: Services for Individuals Who Are Blind or Deaf, 720 North Main Street, Suite 320, Pueblo, CO 81003

Rocky Ford: 409 South Main, Rocky Ford, CO 81067

Sterling: 220 South Third Street, Sterling, CO 80751

Trinidad: 134 West Main, Suite 2-4, Trinidad, CO 81082

Colorado Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

1015 High Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Tel: (719) 578-2196

(719) 578-2207 (Fax)

www.csdb.org/outreach/sb_cimc.html

E-mail: CIMC@csdb.org

Ann Hicks, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support the unique educational needs of public school students with vision disabilities in Colorado by providing a loan bank of educational materials including texts in adapted formats, adapted equipment and professional reference materials.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: El Paso County.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to districts regarding best practices for students with disabilities.

Education Services: Provides textbooks and related instructional materials in alternate formats for students who are blind or visually impaired in Colorado.

Library: Maintains a library of professional, in-service, parent, and assessment materials and equipment.

Professional Training: Provides training in braille codes and formats for teachers and paraeducators.

Colorado Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1600 Broadway

Suite 1320

Denver, CO 80202

Tel: (303) 863-9778

(303) 863-9775 (Fax)

www.visioncare.org

Gwenne Hume, Executive Director,

ghume@visioncare.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality, availability, and accessibility of eye/vision care; to represent the optometric profession to government, third parties, and the public; and to assist members in conducting their practice successfully in accordance with the highest professional standards in patient care.

Colorado Optometric Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2736 Welton Street

Suite 204

Denver, CO 80205

Tel: (303) 295-2402

(303) 295-1067 (Fax)

www.coloradoeyes.org

E-mail: laura@coloradoeyes.org

Charles Woodard, Executive Director,

charles@coloradeyes.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive vision and primary eye care to those with special needs or with limited access to such services.

Established: 1961.

County/District where located: Denver County.

Geographic area served: Denver and Colorado.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible with elevator.

Fee structure: \$45 comprehensive examination, \$60 vision training, \$90 low vision, \$127 homebound, nursing home. Sliding scale assistance for those who cannot afford these fees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides early detection evaluation and intervention of eye health and vision disorders through annual exams.

LOCAL OFFICES

Commerce City: 4301 East 72nd Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80220, wink@thecoc.org

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ School for the blind**

33 North Institute Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3599

Tel: (719) 578-2100

(719) 578-2101 (TDD/TTY)

(719) 578-2239 (Fax)

www.csdb.org

E-mail: csdbstupt@csdb.org

Carol A. Hilty, Interim Superintendent, (719) 578-2102,
(719) 578-2258 (Fax), csdbstupt@csdb.org

Lou Tutt, Principal, School for the Blind, (719) 578-2201,
ltutt@csdb.org

Jon Vigne, Enrollment and Interim Director of Special
Education, (719) 578-2177, jvigne@csdb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational services for blind or visually impaired Colorado students from birth to 21 years of age.

Established: 1874.

County/District where located: El Paso County.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Colorado state guidelines defining hearing and/or vision disability.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-2:55 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories.

Staff: Uses volunteers in addition to staff.

Fee structure: No charge for services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessment on request, on-site or in-home/school within Colorado.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Educational materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Extensive programs provided for Colorado students and teachers.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance:

Consultation/technical assistance available to school

districts or others providing educational services to blind/visually impaired students.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations, psychological testing and evaluation, individual/group counseling, placement in school or training. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Provides K-12 and nongraded educational services and offers programs for infants, preschool, college preparatory, general academic, remedial education. Provides instructional materials in braille and large-print formats.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other employment services.

Health/Medical: Offers audiology therapy, general medical services, speech therapy. Contracts and refers for other health services.

Library: Maintains a library of talking books, braille books, large-print books, braille magazines, recorded magazines.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Holds family learning seminars/workshops.

Preschool: Preschool services for blind/visually impaired provided. Includes opportunities for integration with non-disabled peers.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, special education, vocational rehabilitation and in-service training programs open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, music (handbells, choir, band), hobby groups, bowling, swimming, track, wrestling. Refers for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, low vision training, listening skills, typing, video magnifier, electronic mobility aids, home management, sensory training. Provides consultation to other agencies for rehabilitation teaching in client's home and community.

Colorado Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Professional membership organization**

303 East 17th Avenue

Suite 700

Denver, CO 80203-1260

Tel: (800) 394-4986

(303) 832-4900

(303) 832-4984 (Fax)
www.coloradoeyemds.com/
 Laurel A. Walsh, Executive Director,
laurel@coloradoeyemds.com

Colorado Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

180 Sheridan Boulevard
 Denver, CO 80226-8097
 Tel: (800) 685-2136 (Toll free in Colorado)
 (303) 727-9277 (8:00 AM-4:30 PM MT)
 (303) 727-9281 (Fax)
www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl/
 E-mail: ctbl.info@cde.state.co.us
 Debbi MacLeod, Director, macleod_d@CDE.state.co.us
 Alex Hernandez, Network & IT,
hernandez_alex@CDE.state.co.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a free service to print disabled Coloradoans.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Denver County.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual, physical or learning impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$435,000.

Clients served annually: 10,793.

Staff: 11.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Newsletter, 3 times per year.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Easter Seals Colorado

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

5755 West Alameda Avenue
 Lakewood, CO 80226
 Tel: (800) 875-4732 (Outside Denver metro area)
 (303) 233-1666
 (303) 232-5685 (TDD/TTY)
 (303) 233-1028 (Fax)
www.eastersealscolorado.org/
 E-mail: nhanson@eastersealscolorado.org

Lynn Robinson, CEO,
lrobinson@eastersealscolorado.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To partner with people with disabilities and their families to create solutions to help change and improve their lives so they can live with equality, dignity and independence.

Established: 1926.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides job placement and training for persons with disabilities. Through contracts with local companies, employees receive job training, on-site supervision and support from Easter Seals job coaches. Oversees job placement and recommends necessary worksite modifications. Conducts on-site computer evaluations, equipment modification and training for clients with disabilities.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Rocky Mountain Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1880 South Pierce Street
 Suite 5
 Lakewood, CO 80232
 Tel: (303) 934-9037 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (303) 934-2939 (Fax)
www.hknc.org/
 E-mail: hkncmo@tde.com

Maureen McGowan, Regional Representative
 Christine Morelli, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies. To assist persons with deaf-blindness in becoming as independent as possible and in enjoying a quality of life as full and productive as possible in their local communities.

Geographic area served: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, Utah, Wyoming.

Eligibility requirements: Both legally blind and deaf.

Funded by: Private donations, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, New York facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, New York facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Quik-Scrybe

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1723 Sumac Street
Longmont, CO 80501
Tel: (888) 820-7845
(303) 485-6895
(310) 772-7340 (Fax)
www.quikscrybe.com
E-mail: quikscrybe@comcast.net
Sue Staley, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a rapid-turnover braille service for individuals, businesses, and governmental agencies.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Fee structure: Payment on per-page basis. Accepts checks, credit cards, corporate and government purchase orders.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks, computer manuals, menus, brochures, credit card bills, financial reports, radio/television/theatre scripts and materials, conference proceedings.

Radio Reading Service of the Rockies (RRSR)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

2200 Central Avenue, Suite A
Boulder, CO 80301
Tel: (877) 443-2001

(303) 786-7777

(303) 939-8013 (Fax)

www.rrsr.org/

E-mail: rrsr@rrsr.org

David Dawson, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To normalizing the lives of Colorado's blind, visually impaired and print handicapped citizens by providing access to newspapers, magazines, and other ink print materials.

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Boulder County.

Geographic area served: Colorado and some of Wyoming.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Budget: \$228,000.

Clients served annually: 25,000-30,000.

Staff: 7. Executive Director, Control Room Engineer, Director of Marketing, Director of Development, Director of Listener Services/Volunteers, Weekday Control Room Technician, Weekend Control Room Technician.

Fee structure: All RRSR services are free. Donations are accepted.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from local and national newspapers and magazines, including Newsweek, Parenting, Smithsonian, People, Senior Digest, Human Health, Financial News, Colorado Gardener, Time Out, and various other publications.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Denver Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1355 South Colorado Boulevard
Suite 406
Denver, CO 80222
Tel: (303) 757-0787
(303) 758-1092 (Fax)
www.rfbd.org

Betsy Boudreau, Executive Director,
bboudreau@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Denver.

Geographic area served: Colorado.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning

disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon-Thurs 8:00 AM-8:00 PM; Fri 8:00 AM-Noon.

Accessibility: Elevator.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 5. A mix of staff and volunteers.

Fee structure: Please refer to www.rfbd.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference materials.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

United States Association for Blind Athletes (USABA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

University of Northern Colorado (UNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

501 20th Street

Campus Box 141

Greeley, CO 80639

Tel: (970) 351-2691 (8:00 AM-5:00 PM)

(970) 351-1061 (Fax)

www.nclid.unco.edu

Kay Alicyn Ferrell, Professor, Special Education,
(970) 351-1653, Kay.Ferrell@unco.edu

Paula Conroy, Assistant Professor, Special Education,
Paula.Conroy@unco.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1960.

County/District where located: Weld County.

Geographic area served: Rocky Mountains-High Plains Region and national.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: 24/7.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 60 graduate students.

Staff: 2. 2 faculty positions.

Fee structure: Per-credit-hour tuition charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Master's degree program in severe needs: Vision. Doctoral degree program in special education with emphasis in blindness. Offers online master's degree and licensure/certification programs in severe needs, vision with or without orientation and mobility (orientation and mobility requires some coursework on campus). Through National Center on Low-Incidence Disabilities, also offers additional professional development courses.

Connecticut

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Connecticut Department of Social Services:
Elderly Services Division
(800) 443-9946

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Connecticut Department of Mental
Retardation: Birth to Three System
(800) 505-7000

Educational Services

Connecticut State Board of Education and
Services for the Blind
(800) 842-4510

Connecticut State Department of Education:
Bureau of Early Childhood, Career and
Adult Education, Preschool Special
Education Program
(800) 505-7000

Rehabilitation Services

Connecticut State Board of Education and
Services for the Blind
(800) 842-4510

School for the Blind

Oak Hill
(860) 242-2274

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Connecticut Braille Association
Darien Community Association Program for the Blind
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Connecticut Unit

Dog Guide Schools

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation

Educational Agencies

Music and Arts Center for Humanity

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Tri-State

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Connecticut State Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Lions Low Vision Centers, Inc.

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Connecticut Association of Optometrists

National Publishers

BFI AudioBooks

Radio Reading Stations

Connecticut Radio Information Systems

Rehabilitation Agencies

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind
Rehabilitation Center

Schools for the Blind

Oak Hill

State Technology Programs

Connecticut Assistive Technology Project

BFI AudioBooks

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Connecticut Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State technology program**

25 Sigourney Street
11th Floor

Hartford, CT 06106

Tel: (800) 537-2549

(860) 424-4881

(860) 424-4839 (TDD/TTY)

(860) 424-4850 (Fax)

www.techactproject.com

John M. Ficarro, Project Director, drjohnf@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make sure that Connecticut's residents (all ages) with disabilities get access to assistive technology.
Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Provides information and advocacy services regarding assistive technology issues.

Connecticut Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

342 North Main Street

West Hartford, CT 06117-2500

Tel: (800) 677-7714

(860) 586-7508

(860) 586-7550 (Fax)

www.cao.org

E-mail: info@cao.org

Peter Berry, Executive Director, pberry@cao.org

Lisa Hunter, Assistant Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Publications: Bi-monthly newsletter.

Connecticut Braille Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

44 Imperial Avenue

Westport, CT 06880

Tel: (203) 227-5243

Micki McCabe, Computer Coordinator,
Micki1@juno.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Primarily Connecticut but will copy master for any out-of-state source.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Connecticut Department of Mental Retardation: Birth to Three System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Part C early intervention agency**

460 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106-1308

Tel: (800) 505-7000 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(860) 418-6146

(860) 418-6003 (Fax)

www.birth23.org

Linda Goodman, Director and Part C Coordinator,
linda.goodman@po.state.ct.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To strengthen the capacity of Connecticut's families to meet the developmental and health-related needs of their infants and toddlers who have delays or disabilities.

Established: 1996.

County/District where located: Hartford.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Children must have significant developmental delays or must have a diagnosed condition that is expected to lead to a developmental delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Budget: \$38,000,000.

Clients served annually: 9400.

Staff: 750. Primarily therapists (OT, PT, Speech) and early childhood special education teachers.

Fee structure: Sliding fee scale for family adjusted gross incomes of \$45,000 or more dependent on family size. Fees range from \$5 to \$170 per month.

Publications: Family Handbooks, Service Guidelines. All available on www.birth23.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Connecticut's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Connecticut Department of Social Services: Elderly Services Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State unit on aging**

25 Sigourney Street

10th floor

Hartford, CT 06106-5033

Tel: (800) 443-9946 (Information & Referral in state)

(860) 424-5274

(860) 424-5301 (Fax)

www.ctelderlyservices.state.ct.us

E-mail: ctelderlyserv.dss@po.state.ct.us

Pamela A. Giannini, Director, Elderly Services,
pamela.giannini@po.state.ct.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve families and individuals who need assistance in maintaining or achieving their full potential for self-reliance and independent living.

Established: 1993.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Depends on specific programs.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Fee structure: Most services free.

Publications: Services for Seniors, Elderly Services Manual, Elderly Housing Directory, Original Medicare & Supplemental Options, Medicare Managed Care (HMO) in CT, Prescription Drug Assistance.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, Information and Referral, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Employment: Provides employment referrals for individuals age 55 or older.

Information and Referral: Provides health insurance counseling and information assistance. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Rehabilitation: Offers social, nutritional, employment, and other services to people aged 60 and over. Services are not specific to visually impaired persons.

Connecticut Radio Information Systems (CRIS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

184 Windsor Avenue
Suite C

Windsor, CT 06095

Tel: (800) 708-0004

(860) 527-8000

(860) 727-9581 (Fax)

www.cslib.org/cris/

E-mail: crisradio@snet.net

Andrea Pasquale, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To broadcast via radio, TV, and over the telephone, a program of extensive readings from newspapers and current magazines for people who, because of visual, physical or learning disability, are unable to read the printed page.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Hartford.

Geographic area served: Broadcasts throughout Connecticut with local studios in Danbury, Trumbull, West Haven, Norwich.

Eligibility requirements: Doctor certification or registration with BESB.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: 3 full-time, 3 part-time.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: CRIS Broadcaster (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Provides radio reading service over FM radio, cable TV, telephone 24 hours a day.

Publications include Hartford Courant, Journal Inquirer, New Britain Herald, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Connecticut Post, New Haven Register, Danbury News-Times, Willimantic Chronicle, New London Day, Norwich Bulletin, USA Today, Waterbury Republican.

Connecticut State Board of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

■ State rehabilitation services

184 Windsor Avenue

Windsor, CT 06095

Tel: (800) 842-4510 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(860) 602-4000

(860) 602-4002 (TDD/TTY)

(860) 602-4020 (Fax)

www.besb.state.ct.us/

Donna Balaski, Executive Director,

donna.balaski@po.state.ct.us

Lisa Backus, Director of Adult Services, Adult Services,

lisa.backus@po.state.ct.us

Marsha Brown, Project Director, Independent Living Services, marshaw@aol.com

Brian Sigman, Vocational Rehabilitation Director, (860)

602-4008, (860) 602-4030 (Fax),

brian.sigman@po.state.ct.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality educational and rehabilitative services to people who are legally blind or deaf-blind, and to children who are visually impaired, legally blind or deaf-blind.

Established: 1893.

County/District where located: Hartford County.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Birth to age 21: legal blindness or visually impaired. Adults: legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Clients served annually: 3500.

Staff: 100. Rehabilitation counselors, rehabilitation teachers, O&M instructors, education consultants, Business Enterprises instructors.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: Brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides psychological testing and evaluation.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers home-based and consultant services to other programs for visually handicapped infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Counseling: Offers a full range of counseling programs including parent counseling and a variety of support and related services by consultation.

Education Services: Provides instruction in specialized curriculum related to blindness and in all developmental areas. Provides adapted books, supplies, and assistive technology.

Employment: Offers school-to-work transition programs, evaluation and pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational placement, follow-up service, sheltered workshop, vending facility training, home employment programs.

Health/Medical: Diagnoses and evaluates eye health, evaluates eye treatment or prescription.

Information and Referral: Provides consultation and referral service. Refers to Radio and NFBA # Newline.

Library: Refers for library services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling for parents.

Preschool: Provides instruction in all developmental areas.

Recreation: Offers summer camp opportunities and refers for summer camp program.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and daily living skills and in the use of the Optacon for high school students. Administers

federal-state vocational rehabilitation program.

Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

Connecticut State Department of Education: Bureau of Early Childhood, Career and Adult Education, Preschool Special Education Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

25 Industrial Park Road

Middletown, CT 06457

Tel: (800) 505-7000

(860) 807-2054

(860) 807-2062 (Fax)

www.state.ct.us/sde/deps/early/

E-mail: maria.synodi@po.state.ct.us

Maria Synodi, Preschool Special Education Program
Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide special education and related services through the state's local and regional school districts to children, ages 3 through 5, with disabilities who require such services in order to receive an educational benefit.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Children are determined eligible based upon precise and distinct categories of disabilities and the determination by a team that the child requires special education and related services.

Ages served: 3 to 5.

Hours of operation: Hours and days individually determined for each eligible child.

Accessibility: School facilities are in compliance with 504 and ADA and are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities could be provided based upon the recommendation of a child's team, although most children receive services within their school community.

Budget: \$4,983,470.

Clients served annually: Approximately 8,200.

Staff: Approximately 1,500. Local and regional school district personnel may consist of early childhood/early childhood special education teachers, speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, regular education preschool and kindergarten teachers, education assistants (aides) and other as needed by an individual child.

Fee structure: No cost to parents.

Publications: Birth through Five Newsletter.

Additional information: State Educational Agency.

SERVICES OFFERED

Preschool: Provides preschool special education services for eligible children ages 3-5, including those who are visually impaired or deaf-blind.

Darien Community Association Program for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Alternate media producer**

274 Middlesex Road
Darien, CT 06820
Tel: (203) 655-8554
Siv Safwat, Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Fairfield County.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Residency.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Thursdays.

Accessibility: DCA office.

Residential Facilities: DCA office.

Funded by: Public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational books.

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Dog guide school**

103 Old Iron Ore Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Tel: (860) 243-5200
(860) 243-7215 (Fax)
www.fidelco.org

George J. Salpietro, Executive Director,
gjskarle@fidelco.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote increased independence of men and women who are blind by providing them with the highest quality dog guides.

Established: 1960.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Fidelco News (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: New England Region Office (HKNC)

See Massachusetts.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Connecticut State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ National Library Service library**

198 West Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Tel: (800) 842-4516 (Toll-free in Connecticut)
(860) 566-2151
(860) 566-6669 (Fax)
www.cslib.org/lbph.htm
E-mail: lbph@cslib.org

Carol A. Taylor, Library Director
Gordon Reddick, Circulation Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free library programs and services to any Connecticut adult or child who is prevented by a visual or physical disability from reading ordinary size print.

Established: 1968.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

Clients served annually: 10,000.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides audiocassettes and braille books and magazines along with the necessary playback equipment for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Lions Low Vision Centers, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Low vision center/clinic**

33 Highland Street
New Britain, CT 06050
Tel: (800) 676-5715
(860) 832-9601
(860) 832-9604 (Fax)
www.lionslowvision.org
E-mail: lions_low_vision@sbcglobal.net
Carolyn Messier, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision services and rehabilitation for the visually impaired.

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Hartford County.

Geographic area served: Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Client must be currently under the care of an eye care professional and have a significant vision loss interfering with ability to conduct activities of daily living. Client must provide an eye report from eye care provider.

Ages served: 8 to 101.

Hours of operation: Varies dependent upon the location. All clients are seen by appointment only.

Accessibility: All centers are wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: 1200 across Connecticut.

Staff: 5. Ophthalmologist, low vision therapists, occupational therapists.

Fee structure: No charge for services. Donations accepted.

Additional information: Owned by the Lions of Connecticut, Lions Low Vision Centers, Inc. maintains centers in Greenwich, Danbury, Waterbury, Bridgeport, Southbury, New Britain, Niantic, Willimantic and at the Yale Eye Center in New Haven.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Low Vision: Provides training and counseling in the proper use of low vision aids and devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services to individuals with low vision needs.

Music and Arts Center for Humanity (MACH)**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ Educational agency**

510 Barnum Avenue

3rd Floor

Bridgeport, CT 06608

Tel: (203) 366-3300

(203) 368-2847 (Fax)

www.musicandartscenter.org

E-mail: info@musicandartscenter.org

Alan Fox, President, afox@musicandartscenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Fairfield.

Geographic area served: Fairfield County.

Clients served annually: 2,500.

Staff: 40.

Additional information: MACH is a not-for-profit community school of the arts. Established in 1978, it became the first music school for blind children in

Connecticut. Since that time, MACH has expanded its services to include children and adults with special needs and has added a variety of visual, performing, design, and media arts initiatives to its roster of programs.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Offers the Summer Institute for Blind Musicians, an intensive program focusing on music, braille music, and computer skills.

Oak Hill**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ School for the blind**

120 Holcomb Street

Hartford, CT 06112

Tel: (860) 242-2274

(860) 242-3103 (Fax)

www.ciboakhill.org/index.htm

E-mail: info@ciboakhill.org

Patrick J. Johnson, President, johnsonp@ciboakhill.org

Anna Eddy, Director, Oak Hill School Division, (860)

769-6559 (Fax), eddy@ciboakhill.org

Ana Wittig, Assistive Technologist, (860) 224-6841

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance independence and quality of life for people with disabilities, including visual impairments, by setting the standard in providing innovative solutions, program excellence, services and advocacy.

Established: 1893.

County/District where located: Hartford County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited area served.

Eligibility requirements: Children and adults with multiple disabilities.

Ages served: 6 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: 80 group homes in 42 towns serving students and adults.

Publications: Making It Happen (newsletter).

Additional information: Operates satellite programs throughout the state.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Directories, menus, newsletters, brochures and catalogues.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance in the use of assistive technology.

Counseling: Does social casework and offers social and rehabilitation guidance.

Education Services: Provides Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for each student and overall plans of service (OPs) for each adult.

Employment: Provides supported employment in community.

Health/Medical: Offers occupational, physical, and speech therapies and medical, dental, 24-hour nursing services, and numerous consultants.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers initial and ongoing training for all direct care staff, professionals, and paraprofessionals coordinated by full-time staff development specialist.

Recreation: Offers age-appropriate activities utilizing community facilities, summer camp on shores of Long Island Sound, and greenhouse program for elderly people.

Rehabilitation: Provides training with emphasis on daily living skills, personal management, behavior management, and leisure time activities.

Prevent Blindness Tri-State

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

984 Southford Road
Middlebury, CT 06762
Tel: (800) 850-2020
(203) 598-0529

(203) 598-0584 (Fax)

www.preventblindnessct.org

E-mail: info@preventblindnessct.org

Cheryl Burns, Administrative Assistant,
cburns@preventblindnessct.org

Naomi Hayner, Program Director,
nhayner@preventblindnessct.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To save sight in Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York for a clear vision of the future.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: New Haven County.

Geographic area served: Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: First floor office. No stairs or elevators required to access.

Publications: Low Vision Guide. 2 annual newsletters.

Additional information: Prevent Blindness Tri-State Connecticut is the only nonprofit organization dedicated to saving sight and preventing blindness in Connecticut. In April 2004, PBTSC joined forces with Prevent Blindness New Jersey and Prevent Blindness New York to form the Prevent Blindness Tri-State.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Performs screenings throughout state.

Health/Medical: Voucher program provides free eye care and vision screening for children age 6 months and older.

Information and Referral: Distributes brochures about eye disease. Low vision resource guide includes all resources available to state residents.

Parent Assistance: Provides parent education, information and referral.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening for nurses, public health officials, and other professionals to conduct vision screenings.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Connecticut Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

209 Orange Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Tel: (203) 624-4334

(203) 865-0203 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: connecticut@rfbd.org

Anne Fortunato, Studio Director, afortunato@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves more than 126,000.

Staff: A mix of staff and volunteers.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference materials.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Rehabilitation agency**

VA Connecticut Healthcare System
124 950 Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
Tel: (203) 932-5711

Penny Schuckers, Chief, Penny.Schuckers@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To coordinate a healthcare service delivery system that provides a continuum of care for blinded veterans extending from their home environment to the local VA facility and to the appropriate rehabilitation setting.

Established: 1969.

Geographic area served: East Coast from Maine to Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind veterans only; referral by local Veterans Administration Visual Impairment Service Team Coordinator.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 47. Administration, Regional Consultant, Visual Impairment Service Team Coordinator, Blind Rehabilitation Outreach Specialist, Recreation, Optometry, Nursing, Blind Rehabilitation Specialists, Computer Access Training Instructors.

Additional information: Received a second 3-year CARF accreditation as of September 2003.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Counseling, Health/Medical, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Computer Access Training is provided to all qualified applicants after they have completed the rehabilitation program. Training introduces veteran to assistive technology. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Counseling: Assists in making an emotional and behavioral adjustment to blindness through individual counseling sessions and group therapy meetings.

Health/Medical: Full-time nursing staff is available at center twenty-four hours a day to assist veterans with medical concerns and train on self medication, hypertension, and diabetes. Hospital Support of ancillary services such as audiology and occupational therapy.

Rehabilitation: Offers a variety of skill courses designed to help blinded veterans achieve a realistic level of independence. These skill areas include orientation and mobility, communication skills, activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social/recreational activities.

Delaware

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services: Division for the Visually Impaired
(302) 577-4730

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities
(800) 223-9074

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families:
Division of Family Services
(302) 633-2650

Educational Services

Delaware Department of Education
(302) 739-4667

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services: Division for the Visually Impaired
(302) 577-4730

Instructional Materials Center

Delaware Materials Center
(302) 577-2083

Rehabilitation Services

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services: Division for the Visually Impaired
(302) 577-4730

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Delaware Division of Libraries (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Delaware Academy of Ophthalmology
Delaware Optometric Association

Social Service Organizations

Delaware Association for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative

Delaware Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

131 Continental Drive
Suite 405
Newark, DE 19713-4308
Tel: (302) 658-7596
(302) 658-9669 (Fax)
E-mail: mml@medsocdel.org
Barbara Coons, Executive Director, bac@medsocdel.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote professional and community health education in the field of ophthalmology, to advocate for the interests of the ophthalmologists and their patients and to provide a place for resource sharing and communication for the membership.

County/District where located: New Castle County.

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Eligibility requirements: Licensed ophthalmologist in Delaware.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: 1. One staff person working on a part-time basis.

Publications: Newsletter publication to the membership only.

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

1600 Rockland Road
Wilmington, DE 19899-0269
Tel: (800) 870-3284 (In state)
(302) 651-6790
(305) 651-6793 (Fax)
www.dati.org
E-mail: dati@asel.udel.edu
Beth Mineo Mollica, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase accessibility and utilization of assistive technology.

Established: 1991.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training or provides technical assistance to professionals, employers, or other individuals who provide services to or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of individuals with disabilities.

Delaware Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

800 West Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
Tel: (888) 777-3925
(302) 655-2111
(302) 655-1442 (Fax)
Linda S. Lauria, Executive Director, lndlauria@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for blind and visually impaired adults and children in Delaware through programs of recreation, enrichment, communication, and education.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: New Castle County.

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or severe visual impairment; Delaware resident.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Camps offer accessibility. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 22-bed camp dormitory for adults.

Staff: 5 full-time, 12 part time, 12 seasonal, uses volunteers.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille / Audio / Large Print Production, Counseling, Financial Assistance, Information and Referral, Recreation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes aids and appliances for blind and visually impaired persons. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Records and distributes audiotapes of local material.

Counseling: Offers a peer support program.

Financial Assistance: Offers assistance with equipment purchases, guide dog expenses and financial emergencies.

Information and Referral: Provides information on state and national services.

Recreation: Offers trips, arts and crafts activities, classes, residential summer camps for adult blind, summer children's day camp, swimming, transportation.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Wilmington: 2915 Newport Gap Pike, Wilmington, DE 19808

Delaware Department of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

P.O. Box 1402
John G. Townsend Building
Dover, DE 19903
Tel: (302) 739-4667
(302) 739-2388 (Fax)
www.doe.state.de.us/programs/specialed/
Martha Brooks, Director for Exceptional
Children/Early Childhood Education,
mbrooks@doe.k12.de.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure a free, appropriate public education for children and youth with disabilities.

County/District where located: Kent County.

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities, ramps available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to school districts and charter schools concerning public education of blind/visually impaired students in Delaware.

Education Services: Oversees delivery of educational services to blind and visually impaired students within public schools statewide.

Information and Referral: Provides information to communities regarding public education of blind/visually impaired students.

Professional Training: Co-sponsors with Division for Visually Impaired various programs for teachers of the blind/visually impaired.

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services: Division for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State educational services
- State rehabilitation services

1901 North Dupont Highway

Biggs Building

New Castle, DE 19720

Tel: (302) 577-4730

(302) 577-4750 (TDD/TTY)

(302) 577-4758 (Fax)

www.state.de.us/dhss/dvi/dvihome.htm

E-mail: dhssinfo@state.de.us

Robert Goodhart, Acting Director,

bgoodhart@state.de.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with Delawareans who are blind or visually impaired, empowering them to be self-sufficient.

Established: 1909.

County/District where located: New Castle County.

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Eligibility requirements: 20/70 or worse acuity in the best eye with better correction.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to all.

Publications: DVI Newsletter (bi-annual).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Educational materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Has an outreach program designed to identify and serve individuals who have a visual impairment.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers support groups and counseling programs to facilitate positive emotional adjustment to vision loss.

Education Services: Provides educational services through itinerant teachers and child counselors and textbooks and instructional materials in appropriate mediums.

Employment: Provides community-based services focusing on the individual placement model and skills training. Business Enterprise Program provides competitive and supportive employment opportunities.

Low Vision: Provides low vision devices and evaluation and follow-up. Provides appropriate low vision devices and associated training to consumers of all ages.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Administers and provides rehabilitation services. Provides persons of all ages with high-tech and low-tech adaptive equipment training at home, in school, and at the employment site. Provides independent living services for seniors.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Wilmington: Instructional Materials Center, Cornell Business Park, Suites A3 and A4, Wilmington, DE 19801

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State unit on aging

1901 North DuPont Highway

Administration Building, Annex

First Floor

New Castle, DE 19720

Tel: (800) 223-9074

(302) 255-9390

(302) 255-4445 (Fax)

www.dsaapd.com

E-mail: dsaapdinfo@state.de.us

Allan Zaback, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve or maintain the quality of life for Delaware citizens who are at least 18 years of age with physical disabilities or who are elderly.

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Eligibility requirements: Over 60, or adult with a physical disability over 18 years of age.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA-compliant, braille signage, wheelchair accessible.

Additional information: Serves two populations: seniors over 60 and adults over 18.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides homemaker services, home attendant services. Advises families regarding available services for their elderly parents including those with visual impairments.

In-Home Services: Provides home health care through local contracted home health care agencies. Provides electronic emergency response devices to eligible at-risk population including the elderly blind.

Information and Referral: Provides information about available rehabilitative services, both within the division and outside. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Professional Training: Offers ongoing staff in-service training, annual leadership conference for staff and others serving adult and over-60 clients including visually impaired and others.

Rehabilitation: Provides home modifications and assistive technology to blind or visually disabled and other categories of persons with disabilities. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older through the Community Access Program.

Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families: Division of Family Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Part C early intervention agency**

1825 Faulkland Road
Wilmington, DE 19805

Tel: (302) 633-2650

(302) 633-2652 (Fax)

www.state.de.us/kids/

Rosanne G. Griff-Cabelli, Part C Coordinator,
rcabelli@state.de.us

Joseph Smack, Executive Assistant,
joseph.smack@state.de.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Delaware's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Delaware Materials Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

Division for the Visually Impaired

300 Cornell Drive

Suites A3 and A4

Wilmington, DE 19801

Tel: (302) 577-2083

Ann Hitchcock, Director, ann.hitchcock@state.de.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2000.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Produces materials in braille, large print, and audiotape. Materials produced are educational/job related information for DVI clients upon request from the client's counselor.

Delaware Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

317 E. Main Street

Newark, DE 19711

Tel: (302) 737-5777

(302) 737-0142 (Fax)

E-mail: isee2020@erols.com

David T. Matusiewicz, President, isee2020@erols.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: New Castle County.

Geographic area served: Delaware.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: East Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Maryland.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Delaware Division of Libraries

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

43 South DuPont Highway

Dover, DE 19901

Tel: (800) 282-8676 (Toll-free in Delaware)

(302) 739-4748

(302) 739-4748 (TDD/TTY)

(302) 739-6787 (Fax)

www.lib.de.us

John Phillos, Librarian, jphillos@lib.de.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1971.

Geographic area served: Delaware. Braille readers receive service from Philadelphia, PA.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: 4 full-time.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

District of Columbia

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

District of Columbia Department of Human
Services: Rehabilitation Services
Administration

(202) 442-8663

District of Columbia Office on Aging
(202) 724-5622

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

District of Columbia Department of Human
Services: Office of Early Childhood
Development
(202) 727-1839

Educational Services

District of Columbia Special Education Branch
(202) 724-4800

Rehabilitation Services

District of Columbia Department of Human
Services: Rehabilitation Services
Administration
(202) 442-8663

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic of Metropolitan
Washington

Information/Referral Centers

District of Columbia Office on Aging
District of Columbia Public Library / Adaptive Services
Division
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Dissemination Center for Children and Youth
with Disabilities
Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan
Washington

Libraries

District of Columbia Public Library / Adaptive Services
Division (NLS)
Library of Congress National Library Service for the
Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind
Georgetown University Medical Center: Department of
Ophthalmology

Walter Reed Army Medical Center: Ophthalmology
Service

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

AARP
American Council of the Blind
Blinded Veterans Association
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Membership Organizations (Professional)

National Association of Vision Professionals
Washington DC Ophthalmological Society

National Organizations

AARP
American Council of the Blind
American Foundation for the Blind: Governmental
Relations
Blinded Veterans Association
Eye Bank Association of America
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of State Units on Aging
National Association of Vision Professionals

National Dissemination Center for Children and Youth
with Disabilities
United Cerebral Palsy

Postsecondary Institutions

Gallaudet University: Office for Students with
Disabilities

AARP

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Council of the Blind (ACB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Foundation for the Blind: Governmental Relations (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Blinded Veterans Association (BVA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

1120 20th Street, NW, Suite 750 South

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (877) 324-5252

(202) 454-6400

(202) 454-6401 (Fax)

www.clb.org

E-mail: info@clb.org

Kathryn Courbe, VP, Communications and
Development, (202) 454-6421, kcourbe@clb.org

Jeanne Dubow, Director of Development, (202)
454-6432, jdubow@clb.org

Ellen Farnham, Comptroller, (202) 454-6414,
efarnham@clb.org

Udobi Ikeji, Director of Assistive Technology, (240)
737-5156, (240) 737-5101 (Fax), uikeji@clb.org

Kim Zimmer, VP & COO, (202) 454-6411,
kzimmer@clb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide programs and services that assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired in obtaining and maintaining independence at home, school, work and in the community.

Established: 1900.

Geographic area served: Primarily Metropolitan Washington, DC and nationwide training in Assistive Technology.

Rehabilitation Agencies

Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind

State Technology Programs

University Legal Services Assistive Technology
Program for the District of Columbia

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment not correctible with conventional lenses or medical treatment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 31 full-time and 12 part-time employees. Uses volunteers. Has a Board of Directors for overall program.

Publications: Lamplighter Lens.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes assistive technology software, screen magnification software, CCTVs, scanning and voice recognition solutions, portable notetakers, braille displays and translations, and tactile imaging.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides training in braille literacy.

Community Outreach Programs: Education series offered for schools, churches, civic groups and corporations.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assessments, evaluations, installation, customization, support, and training on a wide variety of assistive technology.

Counseling: Offers parent and family support groups, individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, occupational skill development, vocational training, job retention, job retraining, vocational placement. Refers for other employment services. Assistive Technology classes include keyboarding, screen magnifiers and readers, portable notetakers, braille displays, scanners, CCTVs and software training.

Health/Medical: Refers for all health services.

Information and Referral: Provides support and community services by referral.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Provides training in the use of adaptive equipment.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internships and student teaching in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation, and counseling.

Recreation: Offers summer camp programs for children who are blind or visually impaired.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in adaptive skills, independent living skills, braille, and keyboarding. Older Adult Program offers mini-rehabilitation programs, support, recreational, and social activities.

Support Groups: Offers parent and family support groups.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Kansas City: One Ward Parkway, Suite 331, Kansas City, MO 64112

Riverdale: 6200 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 100, Riverdale, MD 20737, info@clb.org

District of Columbia Department of Human Services: Office of Early Childhood Development

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

717 14th Street, NW

Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20005

Tel: (202) 727-1839

(202) 724-7229 (Fax)

www.dhs.washington.dc.us

Barbara F. Kamara, Executive Director,

barbara.kamara@dc.gov

Joan Christopher, Part C Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure that the government and private sectors are aware of and responsive to the child development and early education needs of the community. This is done on behalf of children and families and in partnership with the public and private sectors including all that are concerned with the future of children in the District of Columbia.

Established: 1987.

Geographic area served: Washington, D.C.

Ages served: 0 to 13.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-4:45 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for the District of Columbia's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Collaborates with other public and private child and family advocacy and service organizations.

District of Columbia Department of Human Services: Rehabilitation Services Administration

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

810 First Street, NE

10th Floor

Washington, DC 20002

Tel: (202) 442-8663 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(202) 442-8742 (Fax)

www.dhs.dc.gov/dhs/cwp/

view,a,3,q,492432,dhsNav,1309891.asp

Elizabeth B. Parker, Administrator,

eparker@rsa.dcgov.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist persons with disabilities in becoming employed and/or to live independently in the home and community.

Geographic area served: Washington, D.C.

Eligibility requirements: Must have a physical and/or mental disability that is a significant impediment to employment.

Hours of operation: 8:15 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Clients served annually: 10,400.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Health/Medical, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment of vocational abilities.

Counseling: Offers counseling and guidance, particularly for vocational possibilities.

Education Services: Helps youths 14-22, under the "D.C. Transition Initiatives" program, move from high school to postsecondary education.

Employment: Provides assistance in job search and placement, job retention, vocational training. Works with communities, businesses and organizations in their efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities and afford them opportunities for integrated employment in the mainstream of society.

Health/Medical: Maintains eye clinics and provides diabetic screening and other health services.

Rehabilitation: Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

District of Columbia Office on Aging (DCOA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Information/referral center**

■ **State unit on aging**

441 Fourth Street, NW
Suite 900

Washington, DC 20001

Tel: (202) 724-5622

(202) 724-8925 (TDD/TTY)

(202) 724-4979 (Fax)

www.dcoa.dc.gov/dcoa/site/default.asp

E. Veronica Pace, Executive Director

Karyn Barquin, Program Coordinator/Long Term Care,
Program and Grants, kbarquin-age@dcgov.org

Sammy Gawad, Compliance/Administration Manager,
Finance, sgawad-age@dcgov.org

Maxine Grey, Social Worker

John James, Project Director/OWETA, Job Training and
Placement, (202) 727-1569 (Fax),
jjames-age@dcgov.org

Darlene Nowlin, Public Affairs Specialist, Customer
Service and Community Relations, Customer
Service/Community Relations,
dnowlin-age@dcgov.org

Bette Reeves, Community Relations Officer, Customer
Service and Community Relations, Community
Services/Customer Relations, (202) 724-5626, (202)
727-1569 (Fax), bette.reeves@dc.gov

Cynthia Simmons, Chief of Staff, Executive Services,
csimmons-age@dcgov.org

Sherlyn Taylor, Program and Grants Administrator,
Program and Grants, staylor-age@dcgov.org

Courtney Williams, Community Planner, Customer
Service/Community Relations, (202) 727-1569 (Fax),
cwilliams-age@dcgov.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a comprehensive and coordinated system of health education employment and social services for persons who are 60 years of age or older and residing in the District of Columbia.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Geographic area served: Washington, DC.

Eligibility requirements: Age 55 or older for employment services, age 60 or older for all other services.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: Total accessibility.

Publications: Senior Yellow Pages, Senior Service Network Directory, State Plan on Aging, Caregivers Resource Directory, Spotlight on Aging Newsletter.

Additional information: DCOA is committed to serving our elderly.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Counseling, Financial Assistance, Health/Medical, Information and Referral to older persons.

Computer Training: Provides computer training for seniors. Computer operating systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Counseling: Provides counseling and social services to seniors.

Financial Assistance: Funds and administers a network of services for seniors including an independent living program and other programs for blind or visually impaired seniors.

Health/Medical: Provides health services, including programs for blind or visually impaired persons.

Information and Referral: Refers to other community-based aging services and provides information on issues relevant to seniors in District of Columbia. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and provides services funded and administered by Office on Aging.

District of Columbia Public Library/Adaptive Services Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Information/referral center**

■ **National Library Service library**

901 G Street, NW

Room 215

Washington, DC 20001

Tel: (202) 727-2142

(202) 727-2145 (TDD/TTY) (Answered by the Librarian to the Deaf Community.)

(202) 727-1129 (Fax) Call before sending a fax.

www.dclibrary.org/lbph

E-mail: lbph.dcpl@dc.gov

Philip Wong-Cross, Head, Adaptive Services Division,
(202) 727-2270, (202) 727-2270 (Fax),
philip.wong-cross@dc.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To perform all the duties of a Library of Congress/NLS Regional Library in serving eligible blind and visually impaired persons, and persons with physical disabilities, in the District of Columbia.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Geographic area served: District of Columbia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print materials.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible entrance. Readers take elevators from the first floor lobby to Room 215. Braille in elevators.

Additional information: The NLS Regional library is one of the service functions within the Adaptive Services Division of the District of Columbia Public Library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers book deposit services to institutions (nursing homes, independent living centers, and schools with blind and deaf-blind students). Delivers books to persons with severely limited mobility.

Information and Referral: Provides general reference, prepare lists of internet links for health, senior-interest, and hearing impaired resources, and other needs as requested.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

District of Columbia Special Education Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

825 North Capitol Street, NE
Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20002
Tel: (202) 724-4800
(202) 442-5517 (Fax)

Anne Gay, Superintendent of Special Education,
anne.gay@k12.dc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer supplemental funds for visually handicapped students in local schools. Maintains availability of special teachers for sight conservation and braille programs on both the elementary and secondary levels.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Geographic area served: District of Columbia.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers supplemental funds for visually handicapped students in local schools, elementary and secondary, within District of Columbia. Maintains availability of special teachers for sight conservation and braille programs throughout District.

Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Gallaudet University: Office for Students with Disabilities

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Hall Memorial Building, Room S-135
800 Florida Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
Tel: (202) 651-5256 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
www.depts.gallaudet.edu/oswd/
E-mail: oswd@gallaudet.edu

Edgar Palmer, Director
Arthur H. Roehrig, Human Development Counselor
Patricia Marie Tesar, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide individually tailored, comprehensive services and programs for students with disabilities, including visual impairment. To assure equal access and opportunity to curricular and extracurricular activities and to encourage student autonomy.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Gallaudet students.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides braille and large-print materials and assistive devices for students.

Assessment: Assesses the needs of students.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Offers alternative print services for students, faculty, and staff by reformatting printed materials such as textbooks, brochures, journals, magazines, memos/letters to the specifications of the requester in formats including braille, audiocassette, and large print.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision equipment and computers.

Reading Services: Provides support services for students, such as notetaking and reader services.

Georgetown University Medical Center: Department of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Pasquerilla Healthcare Center
Seventh floor
3800 Reservoir Road, NW
Washington, DC 20007
Tel: (202) 444-4448
(202) 687-4978 (Fax)

www.georgetownuniversityhospital.org/body.cfm?id=293

Howard P. Cupples, Director, Retina and Vitreous

Service, hcupples@gunet.georgetown.edu

Jay Lustbader, Director, Cornea and Refractive Surgery

Deborah Wilson, Glaucoma Service

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Offers comprehensive consultation and evaluation and treatment of glaucoma and anterior segment. Offers consultation, diagnostic evaluation, and treatment of all aspects of anterior segment diseases and surgery of the eye, including cataract surgery, laser surgery, contact lenses, corneal transplantation, and refractive surgery. Provides consultation, diagnostic evaluation, and treatment of all vitreous and retinal diseases and surgery for these diseases.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: East Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Maryland.

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Association of State Units on Aging

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Association of Vision Professionals (NAVP)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Dissemination Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

1775 Church Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (202) 234-1010

(202) 234-1020 (Fax)

www.youreyes.org/index.htm

E-mail: mail@youreyes.org

Michele D. Hartlove, Executive Director,
mhartlove@usa.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent the needless loss of sight, to keep people from losing sight, to restore sight when possible, and to make the best use of remaining sight.

Established: 1936.

Geographic area served: Washington, DC metropolitan area.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Fee structure: Eyeglasses are \$20-\$35.

Publications: Your Eyes Today, Insight.

SERVICES OFFERED

Agings: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Maintains the Macular Degeneration Network, an organization of persons who have macular degeneration and need help in reaching community resources so they may live as independently as possible.

Counseling: Screens over 10,000 preschool children annually for developmental eye problems. Provides nearly 3,500 pairs of new eyeglasses annually to the poor and homeless. Provides eye examinations for the needy.

Health/Medical: Screens seniors for glaucoma and other eye problems.

Information and Referral: Answers thousands of calls from the community on questions about eye health and safety. Sends out 30,000 pamphlets each year on various eye problems.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic of Metropolitan Washington (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5225 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20015

Tel: (202) 244-8990

www.rfbd.org

Betsy Paull O'Connell, Executive Director, (202)

244-1346 (Fax), boconnell@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Geographic area served: District of Columbia, Maryland, and Northern Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks.

Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-8:30 PM; Fri. 8:30 AM-6:00 PM; Sat. 9:00 AM-2:00 PM.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Budget: \$950,000.

Clients served annually: 4,000 - 5,000.

Staff: 12. Production, volunteer management, executive director and part-time development staff.

Publications: Annual report, newsletters, volunteer info, and membership information.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Library Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Audio Textbooks, reference materials and manuals.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

United Cerebral Palsy

See U.S. National Organizations.

University Legal Services Assistive Technology Program for the District of Columbia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

220 I Street NE, Suite 130
Washington, DC 20002

Tel: (202) 547-0198

(202) 547-2657 (TDD/TTY)

(202) 547-2662 (Fax)

www.atpdc.org

Alicia C. Jones, Program Manager, ajohns@uls-dc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the District of Columbia's capacity to provide appropriate assistive technology devices and services for all Washingtonians with disabilities.

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach support to community-based organizations, advocates, and consumers through training sessions, citywide events and information to expand awareness about assistive technology devices and services. Participates in conferences, exhibits, health fairs, and other public forums to provide demonstrations and information on assistive technology devices and services.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to individual consumers, consumer organizations, service providers, employers, housing and assisted living providers about how assistive technology can improve people's lives.

Financial Assistance: Offers an assistive technology loan program.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

Walter Reed Army Medical Center: Ophthalmology Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Eye Clinic

6900 Georgia Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20307-5001

Tel: (202) 782-6964

(202) 782-6156 (Fax)

www.wramc.amedd.army.mil/

William R. Rimm, Chief, Ophthalmology Service

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: District of Columbia.

Eligibility requirements: Active or retired military; authorized veterans; authorized dependents.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Washington DC Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

6410 Rockledge Drive

Suite 400

Bethesda, MD 20817

Tel: (301) 530-5200

(301) 493-6577 (Fax)

Jean R. Rankin, Executive Director, vmos@verizon.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information and technical assistance to deaf-blind persons, families, educators, and service providers.

Florida

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Florida Department of Education: Division of
Blind Services
(800) 342-1828

Florida Department of Elder Affairs
(800) 962-2873

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Florida Department of Health: Children's
Medical Services, Bureau of Early
Interventions
(850) 245-4444

Educational Services

Florida Department of Education: Bureau of
Exceptional Education and Student Services
(850) 245-0475

Instructional Materials Center

Florida Instructional Materials Center for the
Visually Impaired
(800) 282-9193

Rehabilitation Services

Florida Department of Education: Division of
Blind Services
(800) 342-1828

School for the Blind

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind
(800) 344-3732

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Braille International, Inc.
Florida Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library
Services
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Florida Unit
Temple Sisterhood Braille Group

Dog Guide Schools

Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc.

Educational Agencies

Hillsborough County Schools: Visually Impaired
Program
Merrick Educational Center

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Mana-Sota Lighthouse for the Blind
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired,
Inc.

Information/Referral Centers

Blind Americans, Inc.
Foundation Fighting Blindness: Florida Office
Hope Haven Children's Clinic & Family Center
Mana-Sota Lighthouse for the Blind
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired,
Inc.
Prevent Blindness Florida

Libraries

Audio-Visual Department, Talking Book Section,
Orange County Library System (NLS)
Broward County Talking Book Library (NLS)
Florida Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library
Services (NLS)
Hillsborough County Talking Book Library (NLS)
Lee County Talking Books Library, Lee County Library
System (NLS)
Manatee County Public Library System: Talking Books
Service (NLS)

Pinellas Talking Book Library (NLS)
 Talking Book Library of Dade and Monroe Counties,
 Miami-Dade Public Library System (NLS)
 Talking Book Library, Jacksonville Public Library (NLS)
 Talking Books Library, Brevard County Library System
 (NLS)
 Talking Books, Palm Beach County Library Annex
 (NLS)
 West Florida Regional Library, Subregional Talking
 Book Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Blind Americans, Inc.
 Center for the Visually Impaired
 Lighthouse of Broward County
 Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired,
 Inc.
 University of Florida College of Medicine: Department
 of Ophthalmology, Low Vision Service
 Veterans Administration Hospital: Low Vision Service,
 Eye Clinic

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

United States Blind Golf Association

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Florida Optometric Association
 Florida Society of Ophthalmology

National Organizations

United States Blind Golf Association

National Publishers

Aurora Ministries
 Stephens Publishing Company

Postsecondary Institutions

Florida State University: Program in Visual Impairment

Radio Reading Stations

WGPU Radio Reading Service
 WLRN Radio Reading Service
 WMFE Radio Reading Service
 WUSF Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Center for the Visually Impaired
 CITE, Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired
 Conklin Centers for the Blind
 Florida Center for the Blind
 Florida Department of Education: Division of Blind
 Services, Manderfield Technical Training Laboratory
 Florida Institute of Rehabilitation Education
 Independence for the Blind of West Florida
 Independent Living for Adult Blind
 Lighthouse Central Florida
 Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches
 Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind
 Lighthouse of Broward County
 Mana-Sota Lighthouse for the Blind
 Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired,
 Inc.
 Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Blind
 Rehabilitation Center
 Visually Impaired Persons of Southwest Florida
 Watson Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Schools for the Blind

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Gospel Association for the Blind
 Lighthouse Central Florida

State Technology Programs

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology

Audio-Visual Department, Talking Book Section, Orange County Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

101 East Central Boulevard
 Orlando, FL 32801
 Tel: (407) 835-7464
 (407) 835-7641 (TDD/TTY)
 (407) 834-7645 (Fax)
www.ocls.info/locations/talking_books.asp
 Wendy Bost, Librarian, bost.wendi@ocls.info

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Orange County.
 Geographic area served: Orange County.
 Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical
 impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and
 audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped
 persons.

Aurora Ministries

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Blind Americans, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center ■ Low vision center/clinic

Wishing Well Center
 6055 N. Carl G. Rose Hwy. (SR 200)
 Hernando, FL 34442

Tel: (352) 637-1739
 (352) 637-9277 (Fax)
 E-mail: blindamericans@naturecoast.net
 Robert Krokker, Founder, Director, President,
blindamericans@naturecoast.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.
County/District where located: Citrus County.
Eligibility requirements: Blind or legally blind.
Hours of operation: Office hours: Tues, Thurs, Fri. 9:30 AM-2:30 PM. Shop and classes: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM daily.
Accessibility: Transportation from most areas in Citrus County provided by Citrus County Transit.
Funded by: Private donations, United Way.
Fee structure: No fee for any services. Aids available for purchase at cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides continuing education programs.
Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.
Low Vision: Provides low vision assistance to clients.

Braille International, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

3290 SE Slater Street
 Stuart, FL 34997
 Tel: (888) 336-3142
 (772) 286-8366
 (772) 286-8909 (Fax)
www.brailleintl.org
 E-mail: linda@brailleintl.org
 James F. Redditt, President, jamie@brailleintl.org
 Phyllis H. Campana, Vice President of Operations,
phyllis@brailleintl.org
 Linda F. Wiggins, Director of Administration,
linda@brailleintl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance and maintain the quality of life of the visually impaired.
Established: 1987.
County/District where located: Martin County.
Geographic area served: Continental United States, Canada, and abroad.
Eligibility requirements: Visually impairments: Braille or large print readers.
Ages served: 6 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.
Accessibility: Ramps and braille signs.
Fee structure: Bid process for production of materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).
Types of content: Literary braille, reference books, menus, greeting cards, brochures, catalogs, technical manuals, children's books.
Information and Referral: Provides general referral information regarding available services.
Library: Maintains library of materials in braille available for purchase.
Recreation: Sells T-shirts, watches, talking clocks, jewelry, braille ties. Products for sale on site and online.

Broward County Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

100 South Andrews Avenue
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
 Tel: (954) 357-7555
 (954) 357-7528 (TDD/TTY)
 (954) 357-7420 (Fax)
www.co.broward.fl.us/library/talkingbooks.htm
 Joann Block, Librarian, jblock@browardlibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Broward County.
Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations, public funds.
Fee structure: None.
Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic ■ Rehabilitation agency

1187 Dunn Avenue
 Daytona Beach, FL 32114
 Tel: (800) 227-1284
 (386) 253-8879
 (386) 253-9178 (Fax)
www.cvisight.org
 E-mail: cvisight@bellsouth.net
 Ronee Hudson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the visually impaired residents of Volusia, Flagler, Brevard, and Putnam Counties with the skills and support services to reach their maximum

levels of independence within their home and community in an atmosphere of self-respect and dignity.

County/District where located: Volusia County.

Geographic area served: Flagler, Putnam, and Volusia Counties.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Publications: Eye Opener.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Rehabilitation: Provides independent living training and individual instruction.

CITE, Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

215 East New Hampshire Street

Orlando, FL 32804

Tel: (407) 898-2483

(407) 895-5255 (Fax)

www.cite-fl.com/

E-mail: citeinfo@cite-fl.com

Lee Nasehi, Executive Director, lnasehi@cite-fl.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence of adults and children with blindness, low vision, and other disabilities through technology, education, support, and advocacy.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake and Sumter Counties. Unlimited for technology program. Central Florida for independent living skills program for adults who are blind. Others for short-term training.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Funded by: Private donations, United Way.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations to other agencies.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation; individual, group, family counseling; referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services. Offers peer counseling and support.

Employment: Provides limited assistance with pre-employment skills, pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling. Offers program for adult

continuing education and computer training for both children and adults. Refers to other employment services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers training for parents of blind preschool children.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service training, programs, short-term or summer training, and internship/fieldwork in rehabilitation counseling.

Recreation: Offers leisure activities training program and arts and crafts, hobby groups.

Rehabilitation: Offers 15-week training program for adults who are blind or visually impaired and training in activities of daily living, braille, handwriting, typing, home management, low vision computer access technology, software training.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Leesburg: 32634 Blossom Lane, Leesburg, FL 34788, citelake@cite-fl.com

Conklin Centers for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

405 White Street

Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Tel: (904) 258-3441

(904) 258-1155 (Fax)

www.conklincenter.org

E-mail: info@conklincenter.org

Robert T. Kelly, Interim Executive Director, robert@conklincenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure that a significant number of blind and otherwise disabled people are returned to a useful role in society.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Volusia County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment. Legally blind with secondary handicap; current audiological and psychological exam.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Buildings and apartments are barrier-free. Changes in progress to meet ADA requirements.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory, on-site and off-site apartments and supported living services for adults who are multiply disabled.

Staff: 40 full-time, 10 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: There are fees for non-Florida residents or Florida residents who do not qualify for sponsorship by a referring agency. No fee for those who are referred

by the Florida Division of Blind Services. Some services sponsored by The Florida Division of Developmental Disability.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional skills and vocational assessment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille, handwriting, and typing.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations, and individual and family counseling. Contracts for neuropsychiatric services.

Early Intervention: Provides in-home and center-based services for blind infants and toddlers, birth to kindergarten, as well as services to families and caregivers.

Education Services: Offers programs in adult continuing education, adult basic education, remedial education, and vocational/skill development.

Employment: Provides prevocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, vocational placement, supported employment, and follow-along services. Offers work adjustment services and consultation to other agencies.

Health/Medical: Provides low vision services, general medical services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, psychological and other related services in coordination with community providers.

In-Home Services: Provides in-home services for blind infants and toddlers.

Low Vision: Coordinates with community providers to perform evaluations and provides follow-up on premises.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent support groups as part of early intervention programs.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, hobby group, adult continuing education, bowling, swimming, track activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, home management skills, and in the use of the Optacon, video magnifier, electronic mobility aids in client's home and community. Provides remedial education, sensory training, supported living, and supported employment. Provides consultation to other agencies.

Support Groups: Has a support group for parents of blind and visually impaired children.

LOCAL OFFICES

Orlando: 300 South Orange Avenue, Suite 1500, Orlando, FL 32801

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

325 John Knox Road

Building B

Tallahassee, FL 32303-4151

Tel: (850) 487-3278

(850) 921-5951 (TDD/TTY)

(850) 487-2805 (Fax)

www.faast.org

E-mail: faast@faast.org

Jane Johnson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide assistive technology products and services which will enable persons with disabilities to participate in independent living, education, work and recreation throughout life.

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Provides an alternative financing program for persons with disabilities to help them purchase the assistive technology and accessible services they need for school, work, home and recreation. Offers financing to AT users who want to telecommute (work from home) or start their own home-based business, but don't have the funds to create a workplace with all the needed adaptations.

Information and Referral: Provides information on assistive technology devices and services as well as other community resources for people with disabilities and the general public.

Florida Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ National Library Service library

420 Platt Street

Daytona Beach, FL 32114-2804

Tel: (800) 226-6075

(386) 239-6000

(386) 239-6069 (Fax)

www.state.fl.us/dbs/library/default.shtml

Michael G. Gunde, Librarian,

mike_gunde@dbs.doe.state.fl.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information and reading materials needed by customers.

Established: 1950.

County/District where located: Volusia County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Patron newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Has the following assistive devices: braille embosser, braillewriter, CCTV, magnifier, optical character reader, screen enlarging software, speech input or output.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Any non-textbook materials.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Florida Center for the Blind (FCB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

7325 SW 32nd Street

Ocala, FL 34476

Tel: (352) 873-4700

(352) 873-4751 (Fax)

www.flblind.org

John S. Richards, Executive Director,
director@flblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop and administer programs for the blind and visually impaired with emphasis on rehabilitation and assistance in adjusting to the environment.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Central Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or near blind.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: Focus (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Accredited by CARF.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Counseling: Offers adaptive counseling for the blind and their companions.

Employment: Provides training in job skills such as typing, using computers with speech, employability and electronic communications.

Professional Training: Provides training for FCB volunteers and staff, health care professionals, special education teachers, social workers.

Rehabilitation: Provides assistance for blind persons in adjusting to their environment, including independent living skills, mobility (use of the white cane), braille, and use of adaptive aids and appliances.

Support Groups: Has a support group for people who are blind and their companions.

Florida Department of Education: Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

325 West Gaines Street

Suite 614

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Tel: (850) 245-0475

(850) 245-0475 (TDD/TTY) (Please contact via Florida Relay. In Florida, dial 711 or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) or 1-800-955-8260 (VCO-Direct) or contact the relay provider of your choice.)

(850) 245-0953 (Fax)

www.fldoe.org

Bambi Lockman, Chief, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, Public Schools,
bambi.lockman@fldoe.org

Evy Friend, Administrator, Exceptional Student Education, Program Development and Services, Public Schools, (850) 245-0478, (850) 245-0955 (Fax),
evy.friend@fldoe.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide consultative services for the establishment and operation of school programs for students with disabilities.

County/District where located: Leon County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Students with disabilities as defined by federal and state laws.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Residential Facilities: With the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind in St. Augustine.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts assessment of students with disabilities.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers literacy programs.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides consultation and support to local programs.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical support to school districts and agencies.

Education Services: Acts as clearinghouse for materials related to education of persons with disabilities.

Professional Training: Provides assistance for in-service teacher training through state or regional workshops.

Florida Department of Education: Division of Blind Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

1320 Executive Center Drive
Room 100, Atkins Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2050
Tel: (800) 342-1828
(850) 245-0300
(850) 245-0363 (Fax)
www.state.fl.us/db

Craig Kiser, Director, Blind Services,
Craig_Kiser@db.[s.doe.state.fl.us](mailto:Craig_Kiser@db)
Mondi Azpeitia, Program Specialist,
mondi.azpeitia@db.[s.doe.state.fl.us](mailto:mondi.azpeitia@db)
Michael Elliott, Bureau Chief, Client Services,
michael_elliott
Mike Gunde, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Braille and
Talking Book Library Services, (800) 226-6075,
Mike_Gunde@db.[s.doe.state.fl.us](mailto:Mike_Gunde@db)
Greg Luther, Rehabilitation Engineer,
greg.luther@db.[s.doe.state.fl.us](mailto:greg.luther@db)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide integrated services for blind or visually impaired individuals leading to independent lifestyles, employment and contribution to the community.

Established: 1941.

County/District where located: Leon County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, pathology or injury threatening loss of vision in both eyes.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Maintains a 54-bed residential rehabilitation center.

Staff: Rehabilitation teachers, rehabilitation specialist, rehabilitation engineers. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Varies depending on program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction braille, handwriting, typing, and listening.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers parent counseling and referrals to other facilities as needed. Conducts social evaluation; psychological testing and evaluation; individual, group, family/parent, and couple counseling.

Contracts, refers, and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Provides direct instruction. Offers home- and center-based programs, remedial education for visually handicapped children, with or without other handicaps.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job training, vocational placement, vending facility training. Contracts, refers, and provides consultation to other agencies for employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment and genetic counseling. Visual and other health services referred to children's medical services or other agencies. Contracts and refers for all health services.

Information and Referral: Provides consultation to other agencies for employment oriented services.

Library: Provides braille and talking book library services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Co-sponsors with Florida Lions Club twice yearly Camp Achievement, a preschool camp for the visually impaired and their parents.

Professional Training: Offers sensory training, internship/fieldwork/placement in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work, rehabilitation teaching. In-service and short-term or summer training open to enrollment from other agencies.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services in client's home and community. Contracts, refers and provides consultation to other agencies for all rehabilitation services. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Daytona Beach: 1185 Dunn Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32014

Jacksonville: 1809 Art Museum Drive, Room 201, Jacksonville, FL 32207

LOCAL OFFICES

Bradenton: 5117 26th Street West, Suite A, Bradenton, FL 34207

Daytona Beach: 420 Platt Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Fort Lauderdale: 2800 West Oakland Park Boulevard, Suite 204, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

Fort Myers: 2830 Winkler Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33916

Gainesville: 417 S.W. 8th Street, Gainesville, FL 32301

Miami: 401 NW 2nd Avenue, Room S-714, Miami, FL 33128

Orlando: 400 West Robinson Street, Suite 102, Orlando, FL 32801

Panama City: 294 Forest Park Circle, Panama City, FL 32405

Pensacola: 7200 North 9th Avenue, Suite A-11, Pensacola, FL 32504

St. Augustine: P.O. Box 69, St. Augustine, FL 32085-0069

St. Petersburg: 3637 Fourth Street, North, Suite 310, St. Petersburg, FL 33704-1335

Tallahassee: 2003 Parkway Building, Room 201, Tallahassee, FL 32399

Tampa: 415 South Armenia Avenue, Tampa, FL 33609

West Palm Beach: Palm Beach County Regional Service Center, 111 Sapodilla Avenue, 1st Floor, West Palm Beach, FL 33901

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Daytona Beach: Rehabilitation Center for the Blind, 1111 Willis Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32014, Edward Hudson

Florida Department of Education: Division of Blind Services, Manderfield Technical Training Laboratory (MTTL)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

401 Platt Street

Daytona Beach, FL 32114-2803

Tel: (800) 522-5078

(904) 254-3856

(904) 252-3800 (Fax)

www.state.fl.us/dbs/cs/technology.shtml

E-mail: HELP@dbs.doe.state.fl.us

Jerry V. Little, Supervisor, Blind Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons in gaining personal, social and pre-vocational skills which allow them to be as self-sufficient as possible.

County/District where located: Volusia County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Must be a client of Division of Blind Services.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Yes.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: MTTL Access Technology Support (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts vocational assessments and computer skills assessments.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output

systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Medical transcription.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Maintains a Help Desk for technical problems.

Rehabilitation: Assists blind and visually impaired persons attain personal, social, and pre-vocational skills.

Florida Department of Elder Affairs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

4040 Esplanade Way

Tallahassee, FL 32399-7000

Tel: (800) 962-2873 (Elder Helpline)

(850) 414-2000

(850) 414-2004 (Fax)

www.elderaffairs.state.fl.us/

E-mail: information@elderaffairs.org

Terry White, Secretary

Tom Reimers, Director, Volunteer and Community Services

Ronald Taylor, Statewide Home and Community Based Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advocate and serve Florida's elders, by promoting and implementing long-term care policies and procedures. To plan, coordinate, administer, and initiate programs and services that empower elders and their caregivers to age in place, with dignity, security, and purpose.

Established: 1992.

County/District where located: Leon County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates for Florida's elders. Plans, coordinates, administers, initiates programs and services for elders.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy, Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Florida Department of Health: Children's Medical Services, Bureau of Early Interventions

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

4025 Esplanade Way

Room 235

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707

Tel: (850) 245-4444

(850) 921-8138 (Fax)

www.cms-kids.com

Monica E. Rutkowski, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Prevention and Early Interventions, (850) 414-7350 (Fax), monica_rutkowski@doh.state.fl.us
 Karen L. Anderson, Coordinator of Hearing and Vision Services, Bureau of Early Interventions, Karen_Anderson@doh.state.fl.us
 Janice Kelley, Unit Director, Bureau of Early Interventions, (850) 245-4200, (850) 921-9138 (Fax), janice_kelley@doh.state.fl.us
 Paula Kendig, Pro Coordinator, (850) 434-8137, pkendig@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the well-being of Florida's children by providing prevention and early intervention services that address the medical and developmental needs of infants, children, and pregnant women.

Established: 1993.

County/District where located: Leon County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers who have been diagnosed with an established condition associated with developmental delay or who have a developmental delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Accessibility: State office provides accessibility as necessary to any employee.

Clients served annually: 40,000 all disabilities; 300 visually impaired.

Staff: State-level staff. Sixteen Local Early Steps Programs employ additional staff. Vision services provided by school districts (30 of 67 districts serve) or Division Blind Services contractees.

Fee structure: No cost to parents; Medicaid and insurances billed. Part C Early Intervention is payer of last resort. Vision services typically without cost to Part C due to funding from schools or DBS.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers multidisciplinary functional assessment of skills of children with disabilities to determine appropriate functional outcomes for the Individual Family Support Plan.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Florida's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Offers services to families and caregivers in the natural environment of the child with disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral on services available to children with special needs and their families.

Parent Assistance: Has a Parent Resource Organization (PRO), a 21-member group made up of parents of children with special needs. These parents are involved with setting statewide policies and guidelines.

Professional Training: Sponsors several training opportunities throughout the year for staff, state level partners, service providers, and families. Vision-specific training is available through DBS, DOE, or FSDB.

Florida Institute of Rehabilitation Education (FIRE)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1286 Cedar Center Drive

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tel: (850) 942-3658

(850) 942-4518 (Fax)

E-mail: ibskip@earthlink.net

Skip Koch, Executive Director

Evelyn Worley, Assistant Director,

ibevelyn@earthlink.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve all persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Leon County.

Geographic area served: Franklin, Gadsen, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Suwanee, Taylor, and Wakulla Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind; desire to improve independent living skills and vocational skills.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: All materials are provided in accessible format; facility is fully accessible.

Budget: \$500,000,00.

Clients served annually: 240.

Staff: 9. Independent living specialists, assistive technology instructor, O&M instructor.

Fee structure: Services are provided at no charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, Recreation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation; counseling for individual/group/couples; and support groups.

Employment: Provides independent living skills, social skills, employment skills and computer training at home or job site.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers hobby groups and special programs for the elderly.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living and communication skills.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

4210 West Bay Villa Avenue

Tampa, FL 33611-1206

Tel: (800) 282-9193

(813) 837-7826

(813) 837-7979 (Fax)

www.fimcvi.org

Suzanne A. Dalton, Supervisor, sdalton@fimcvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist Florida's public and private schools with the specialized instructional materials' needs of blind and visually impaired students.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: School District of Hillsborough County.

Geographic area served: State of Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Students must meet criteria for eligibility as described in Florida Administrative Code.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:15 PM.

Accessibility: All ground floor facilities, no ramps required.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: The Visual Field (newsletter), FIMC-VI Procedures Manual and various resource publications.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides large print, braille, and recorded textbooks and supplementary materials and equipment such as braillewriters, adapted cassette recorders and digital playback machines, and other specialized equipment for students who are blind or visually impaired in the state of Florida.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance and consultative support to local school districts, teachers of visually impaired students and other parents and/or professionals.

Education Services: Serves as instructional materials center. Coordinates procurement, storage, and distribution of educational materials for students with visual disabilities.

Professional Training: Coordinates regional training and new teacher orientation meetings for personnel who work with blind and visually impaired students. Provides training in materials production,

technological applications and instructional strategies for students with visual impairments.

Florida Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

401 Office Plaza Drive

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tel: (850) 877-4697

(850) 878-0933 (Fax)

www.floridaeyes.org

Kenneth L. Franklin, Executive Director,
ken@foa.vistech.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance and promote the quality, availability and accessibility of primary eye care and related health care of Florida's citizens; to represent the profession of optometry; to enhance and promote the independent and ethical decision-making of its members; and to assist and enable optometric physicians to practice their profession so as to ensure the highest standards of patient care.

Established: 1902.

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

207 North San Marco Avenue

St. Augustine, FL 32084

Tel: (800) 344-3732

(904) 827-2200 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(904) 827-2210 (TDD/TTY)

(904) 827-2598 (Fax)

www.fsdb.k12.fl.us

Elmer Dillingham, President,
dillingham@mail.fsdb.k12.fl.us

Hugh Lewis, Principal of the Deaf Department, (904)
827-2500, (904) 827-2506 (Fax)

Gerald W. Stewart, Principal of the Blind Department,
(904) 827-2700, (904) 827-2714 (Fax),
stewart@mail.fsdb.k12.fl.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free appropriate public education for eligible sensory-impaired students of Florida and to provide students an opportunity to maximize their individual potential in a caring, safe, unique learning environment to prepare them to be literate, employable, and independent.

Established: 1885.

County/District where located: St. Johns County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: 20/70 in better eye after correction; special needs with the exception of children with severe emotional or medical problems beyond the School's ability to manage.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Residential, Monday-Friday.

Accessibility: ADA-Compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories designed to enhance daily living skills progressively. Independent living apartments for high school students.

Clients served annually: 100.

Staff: 620 full-time including all departments, 100 full-time in the Department for the Blind.

Publications: The Florida Herald.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations; psychological testing and evaluations; individual, group and family/parent counseling; linkage with other agencies and community services.

Early Intervention: Provides complete home and community program to facilitate identification of sensory loss development, and public awareness.

Education Services: Offers grades K through 12 and programs for college prep. Provides training in general academic and vocational/skill development. Offers cooperative school programs with the Division of Blind Services and St. Johns County School District. Provides sequential dormitory curriculum designed to progressively enhance daily living skills.

Employment: Offers prevocational/vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, vocational work-study program, cooperative career planning with Division of Blind Services-Vocational Rehabilitation.

Health/Medical: Offers occupational, physical and speech therapy, diagnosis and evaluation of eye health, general medical services, dental screening.

Library: Provides braille, large-print and recorded books and appropriate assistive devices for students.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Offers preschool programs for 3- and 4-year-olds children.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training program, tuition waivers to state universities, internship/practicum placement for student teachers in specific or general education areas.

Recreation: Offers after-school recreation programs, active and leisure activities, arts and crafts, individual

and team activities, clubs and hobby groups, swimming, goalball, track and wrestling teams, cheerleaders, scouting.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, activities of daily living, word processing, individual and group counseling, listening skills, use of video magnification and other low vision devices, remedial education.

Florida Society of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

8833 Perimeter Park Boulevard
Suite 301

Jacksonville, FL 32216

Tel: (904) 998-0819

(904) 998-0855 (Fax)

www.mdeye.org/

Christopher R. Seymour, Executive Director,
directory@mdeye.org

Florida State University: Program in Visual Impairment

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

205 Stone Building

College of Education

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4459

Tel: (850) 644-4880

(850) 644-8715 (Fax)

www.fsu.edu/~spec-ed/

E-mail: blindness@coe.fsu.edu

Sandra Lewis, Program Coordinator, Program in Visual Impairment, (850) 644-8409, lewis@coe.fsu.edu

Silvia Correa, Coordinator, Orientation and Mobility Specialization, (850) 644-8413, correa@coe.fsu.edu

Lynda Jones, Coordinator, Rehabilitation Teaching Specialization, (850) 644-5610, jonesl@coe.fsu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prepare high quality teachers of students with visual impairments, orientation and mobility specialists, and rehabilitation teachers.

Established: 1963.

County/District where located: Leon County, Florida.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate program in teaching visually impaired children, with the option of taking coursework toward dual certification in orientation and mobility. Graduate (master's, doctoral) programs in teaching visually impaired children, orientation and mobility, and rehabilitation teaching, with the option of combining all or some of these specializations.

Professional Training: Prepares teachers of children with visual impairments and rehabilitation and orientation and mobility specialists at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Florida Office (FFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

318 Indian Trace #417

Weston, FL 33326

Tel: (888) 394-3937

(954) 888-9996

(954) 888-9986 (Fax)

www.blindness.org

E-mail: phuff@blindness.org

Keri Vaughan, Executive Director,
kvaughan@blindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fund the research that will discover the causes, treatments, preventive methods, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Broward County.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: Fighting Blindness News (newsletter), Update (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

Gospel Association for the Blind

■ Social service organization

7850 South U.S. Highway 1

Bunnell, FL 32110-8770

Tel: (386) 586-5885

George Montanus, Jr., President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Flagler County.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada, and islands of the Caribbean.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Private donations.

Publications: The Gospel Messenger (monthly cassette magazine).

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Maintains an extensive Christian braille and cassette circulating library for the blind.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

Hillsborough County Schools: Visually Impaired Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

4210 W. Bay Villa Avenue

Tampa, FL 33611

Tel: (813) 837-7840

(813) 837-7844 (Fax)

Laura C. Brown, Coordinator, (813) 273-7340 (Fax),
LauraC.Brown@sdhc.k12.fl.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Geographic area served: Hillsborough County.

Eligibility requirements: Must meet state criteria regarding visual impairment.

Funded by: Foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Assesses potential visual problems that may affect learning development of children, birth to 3 years old, in their homes.

Education Services: Provides itinerant, resource room and special class placements for visually impaired students, preschool-grade 12, with or without other impairments. Provides instruction in daily living skills, orientation and mobility, academic instruction, listening skills, specialized skills (braille, Nemeth Code).

Hillsborough County Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

Jan Platt Regional Library

3910 South Manhattan Avenue

Tampa, FL 33611-1214

Tel: (813) 272-6024

(813) 272-6305 (TDD/TTY)

(813) 272-6072 (Fax)

www.tbl.hcplc.org

Ann Bush, Talking Book Librarian, (813) 272-6070,
busha@hillsboroughcounty.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines in accessible formats to people with print disabilities.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Geographic area served: Hillsborough County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 3 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facility.

Staff: 4.

Publications: Tampa Talks (newsletter).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides books on cassette tape and in braille, and descriptive videos to people who are blind or physically disabled.

Hope Haven Children's Clinic & Family Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Information/referral center**

4600 Beach Boulevard

Jacksonville, FL 32207

Tel: (904) 346-5100

(904) 346-5111 (Fax)

www.hope-haven.org/

E-mail: hopehaven@hope-haven.org

Laurie P. Price, MHSA, Executive Director

Jennifer Smith, Director, jennifers@hope-haven.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality care and assistance to children and families with special physical, psychological and educational needs.

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: Duval County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited, although clients come mainly from Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Varies by program.

Hours of operation: Mon-Thurs. 8:00 AM-6:00 PM; Fri. 8:00 AM-Noon.

Clients served annually: Over 5,000 families receive services each year.

Staff: Expert team of psychologists, pediatricians, educational specialists, speech pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and tutors work together to promote each individual's ability to learn. Areas of specialization include children with Down syndrome, autism, dyslexia, attention deficit disorder, and other learning disabilities. Specific programs for adults with disabilities are available.

Fee structure: Charges based on sliding scale.

Publications: Bi-annual newsletter; annual report.

Additional information: Financial assistance available to children.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Offers individual and group computer-assisted tutoring, assistive technology and communication device evaluations and training, demonstrations and workshops for parents and professionals.

Counseling: Offers professional counseling services for family's individual needs.

Independence for the Blind of West Florida

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

1302 Dunmire Street

Pensacola, FL 32504

Tel: (850) 477-2663

(850) 479-4025 (Fax)

www.ibwest.org

E-mail: email@ibwest.org

Richard Burdess, Executive Director, email@ibwest.org

Brooke Brown, Grants Writer, brooke@ibwest.org

Lisabeth Causey, Certified Orientation & Mobility

Specialist, liz@ibwest.org

Mary Colston, Programs Director, Certified

Rehabilitation Teacher, mary@ibwest.org

Lynda Edens, Computer Instructor, ibstructor@cox.net

Peter Feysa, MCSE, Computer Instructor,

peter@ibwest.org

Grace R. McCaffery, Director of Development and

Public Relations, grace@ibwest.org

Michele Meyer-Arendt, Case Manager, Office Assistant,

michele@ibwest.org

John O'Dillon, Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist,

Certified Rehabilitation Teacher, john@ibwest.org

Shuntay E. Williams, Administrative Assistant,

shuntay@ibwest.org

Michael Yeargins, Computer Instructor,

myeargins@yahoo.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To teach independent living skills, computer and adaptive technology, and provide vocational assessments, training and employment-related services to people who are blind or visually impaired so they can achieve maximum independence.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Escambia County.

Geographic area served: Political District 1 of Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Certified as totally blind, legally blind, or progressively blind. Referral process is through the Division of Blind Services.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Complies with ADA specifications.

Staff: 11. 10 full-time employees; 1 part-time employee; volunteers assist agency.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Newsletter(s).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, Computer Training, Employment, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in Grade 1 and Grade 2 braille reading and the use of Perkins Braille and slate and stylus.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in expos and health fairs to collect information regarding people who need services and referrals through other agencies and telephone community contacts.

Computer Training: Offers training for clients on a vocational tract and for others seeking an additional means of communication. The program includes basic computer operation, standard business software, and the use of computer-related adaptive software and technology. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Works with vision teachers in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties to keep them current with technological advances.

Employment: Offers vocational training, including, but not limited to, resume writing, interviewing techniques, job seeking, work skills, and job coaching.

Information and Referral: Refers to other agencies as needed.

Low Vision: Provides low vision assessments to determine magnification strength and training in the use of CCTVs, lamps, and nonoptical aids.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training for home and business travel, use of travel aids, and sighted guide skills.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in, including but not limited to, personal grooming, housekeeping skills, meal preparation, money identification, record keeping, labeling and organization, orientation skills, sighted guides and cane techniques, use of special adaptive devices, family education and support, and reading and writing to include braille.

Tel: (904) 633-8220

(904) 632-5107 (Fax)

Rebecca Simpson, Project Coordinator,
bsimpson@fccj.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide instruction in adjustment-to-blindness skills for visually impaired adults who wish to improve their level of independence and/or return to work.

Established: 1971.

Geographic area served: Duval, Nassua, St. Johns and Clay Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legal or total blindness, visually impaired, deaf-blind.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 5 full-time, 5 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Billed to state agency.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Library Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment of independent living and adjustment-to-blindness skills. Evaluates computer skills and access needs.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers individual, group and family counseling. Refers for other services. Provides counseling and community integration support for seniors.

Library: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, communication, and home management skills. Provides training in skills of daily living and use of adaptive devices for seniors.

Lee County Talking Books Library, Lee County Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

13240 North Cleveland Avenue, #5-6

North Ft. Myers, FL 33903-4855

Tel: (800) 854-8195 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Florida only)

(239) 995-2665 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

Independent Living for Adult Blind (ILAB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

c/o Florida Community College at Jacksonville

101 West State Street

Jacksonville, FL 32202

(239) 995-1681 (Fax)
www.lee-county.com/library/progserv/ssvcs/tb.htm
 E-mail: talkingbooks@leegov.com

Marylou Tuckwiller, Librarian,
mtuckwiller@leegov.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free recorded books and magazines for county residents of all ages who have any disability that prevents them from reading printed material.

Established: 1991.

County/District where located: Lee County.

Geographic area served: Lee County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Publications: Newsletter, bibliographies, disability-related resource sheets.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Directs people to assistive technology resources, special recording programs and professional materials and other local disability-related services.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Lighthouse Central Florida

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency
- Social service organization

215 E. New Hampshire Street

Orlando, FL 32804

Tel: (888) 898-1544

(407) 898-2483

(407) 895-5255 (Fax)

www.centralfloridalighthouse.org/

Lee Nasehi, Executive Director, lnasehi@cite-fl.com

Marilyn Hattaway, Director of Resource Development,
mhattaway@cite-fl.com

Joyce Hildreth, Associate Executive Director,
jhildreth@cite-fl.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independence of adults and children with blindness, low vision and other disabilities through technology, education, support, and advocacy.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Orange and Lake Counties.

Geographic area served: Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake and Sumter Counties.

Eligibility requirements: People who are totally blind, legally blind, and visually impaired who are mentally/physically able to benefit from services. Referrals from the Division of Blind Services.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM. Also special evening programs.

Accessibility: Fully accessible to persons with disabilities and located (Downtown Orlando facility) near a bus line.

Clients served annually: 800.

Staff: 40. Staff consists of certified vision rehabilitation and early intervention professionals. Many employees are visually impaired themselves.

Fee structure: There are no direct costs to students at this time; however there is a small charge for materials to offset this cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers individual, group, and family counseling; peer counseling. Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work.

Early Intervention: Intervention for ages birth through five provides infants and toddlers with visual impairments the opportunity to reach developmental parity.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to and information about community resources.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal and home management, communications, sensory awareness skills.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Leesburg: 32634 Blossom Lane, Leesburg, FL 34788

Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency

7810 South Dixie Highway

West Palm Beach, FL 33405

Tel: (888) 299-8881 (Toll free from anywhere in 561 area code except Greater West Palm Beach area)

(561) 586-5600

(561) 586-5630 (Fax)

William S. Thompson, President and CEO

Dawn Clemons, VP, Development, Community Relations, and Services

Kemper Orton, Low Vision Counselor

Elissa Stern, Director of Rehabilitation

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons to develop their capabilities to the fullest and to utilize them in the pursuits of life that are the right and privilege of all.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Palm Beach County.

Geographic area served: Palm Beach County and surrounding areas.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No fee for rehabilitation and education services. Fee for low vision clinic. Medicare covers some charges.

Publications: Lighthouse Illuminations, Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts comprehensive low vision evaluation and follow-up for clinic. For rehabilitation, comprehensive assessment provided in the home.

Assistive Products: Adaptive devices and appliances for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach assistance for children and seniors and offers public education program including speakers' bureau.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Administers in-service training to staffs of organizations. Provides consultation for businesses wishing to employ blind or visually impaired persons.

Counseling: Offers individual, family, and group counseling. Support groups available.

Early Intervention: Provides comprehensive full-time early intervention services and computer training from birth to age 5.

Information and Referral: Provides phone assistance to persons who are visually impaired and information about other community services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Provides preschool services for blind, visually impaired, and multiply disabled blind children from birth to age 5.

Professional Training: Offers field study, in-service training, field work, observations, and internships in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, low

vision optometry, social work, and special education. Public education programs include speakers bureau, films, and demonstrations.

Recreation: Social club meets once a month for entertainment, crafts, and companionship.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, communication, and training in the use of low vision devices. Offers vision rehabilitation and referrals to and in coordination with other rehabilitation services.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Rehabilitation agency**

8610 Galen Wilson Boulevard

Port Richey, FL 34668

Tel: (727) 815-0303

(727) 815-0203 (Fax)

www.lighthouse-pasco.org/

E-mail: cpaquin@lighthouse-pasco.org

Don Griffin, Executive Director

Becky Barber, Children's Teacher

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide blind and visually impaired persons with the skills needed to achieve their maximum independence.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Pasco County.

Geographic area served: Pasco and Hernando Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, or with a condition leading to blindness.

Ages served: 0 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp and braille signage. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 1,500.

Staff: 17. Certified care managers, certified rehabilitation teachers, certified low vision specialist.

Publications: Beacon (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Counseling, Employment, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment.

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision devices and appliances (magnifiers, lighting, talking clocks, signature guides, bold paper, large-print items). Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts services such as screening and other related activities in the community to identify and assist individuals in need of assistance.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides advice, assistance and consultative support to local schools, teachers of visually impaired students and other agencies.

Counseling: Offers counseling for individuals/groups, refers for school/training placement and community services.

Early Intervention: Offers the Little Lighthouse, an early intervention program for children birth to five. Offers parent education.

Employment: Provides occupational skill development and consultation to other agencies for vocational placement.

Information and Referral: Provides general information about blindness and visual impairment and referrals to sources of other information and services.

Library: Maintains small, on-site library housing reference materials, talking books and large-print books.

Low Vision: Provides low vision services and adaptive devices and appliances for seniors.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service meetings to local medical personnel.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts activities, hobby groups, current events and other programs for elderly people.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living/communication skills, sensory training, training in the use of low vision devices.

LOCAL OFFICES

Brooksville: 6492 California Street, Brooksville, FL 34604-8403

Lighthouse of Broward County

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

650 North Andrews Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311

Tel: (954) 463-4217

(954) 764-3825 (Fax)

www.lhob.org

E-mail: vision@lhob.org

Kathleen Gent, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence, productivity, and quality of life of children and adults who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Broward County.

Geographic area served: Broward County, Florida.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or has an eye condition that is likely to lead to blindness or affects the ability to function independently.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds, United Way.

Budget: \$1,245,298.

Clients served annually: 500.

Staff: 20. Salaried staff and volunteers.

Fee structure: Free to early intervention children and adult clients; sliding scale fee charged for KIDS Beacons of Light program for school-aged children.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training, Counseling, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts vision and skills screening for all clients.

Assistive Products: Sells CCTVs as well as assistive products to clients.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Braille menus and other materials requested, except textbooks.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers 3-week classes at different locations in the county for visually impaired people.

Computer Training: Provides training in adaptive computer technology, basic computer use, and Internet and e-mail. Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation; peer support groups; individual, group, and couple counseling; referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Early Intervention: Offers parent support, assessments, and instruction in age-appropriate cognitive skills, motor skills, and daily living self-help skills. Parent support group available.

Information and Referral: Provides information on all county and government services and refers to other agencies.

Low Vision: Low vision doctor available weekly. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training for children and adults. Adult training is available in personal management, home management, functional kitchen skills, kitchen safety, adaptive communications skills and devices, typing, braille, computers and adaptive technology, and adjustment to vision loss counseling and support groups. Primarily center-based instruction with some home outreach services. Focus is on providing training in independent living skills and skills for vocational rehabilitation. KIDS Beacons of Light serves children 6-22 years providing after-school and holiday/summer camps. Program focuses on independent living skills, homework assistance, self-esteem building, and recreational activities.

Mana-Sota Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Infant/preschool agency
- Information/referral center
- Rehabilitation agency

7318 North Tamiami Trail

Sarasota, FL 34243

Tel: (941) 359-1404

(941) 359-2373 (Fax)

E-mail: mana.Lighthouse@verizon.net

Janice T. Felski, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote individual growth of dignity of visually impaired and blind adults and children. Organization is committed to extending its educational and training resources to families, and becoming their voice in the community.

Established: 1985.

County/District where located: Manatee County.

Geographic area served: Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Public transportation, handicap transportation. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 379.

Staff: 13.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Brochure and Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts pre- and post-rehabilitation assessment.

Audiodescription: Provides audiodescription services upon request.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides counseling services by appointment.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services.

Education Services: Offers program for transitioning into local schools.

Employment: Conducts vocational evaluation.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to community resources.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Parent and kids program offers preschool services for children age 3-5.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in independent living skills.

Manatee County Public Library System: Talking Books Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

6081 26th Street West

Bradenton, FL 34207-4402

Tel: (941) 742-5914

(941) 751-7098 (Fax)

www.co.manatee.fl.us/service/library/index.html

Patricia Schubert, Librarian/Supervisor,
patricia.schubert@co.manatee.fl.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library services, especially free recorded and braille materials, for the visually impaired or physically handicapped.

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Manatee County.

Geographic area served: Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 2 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: Quarterly Newsletter.

Additional information: NLS Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books and braille books and magazines, large-print books, and descriptive videos for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Merrick Educational Center**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Educational agency**

39 Zamora Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Tel: (305) 445-5188
(305) 447-3761 (Fax)
www.merrick.dadeschools.net
Judith Slovin, Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer, in the B-2 hearing and vision program, free services at home for infants and toddlers who are diagnosed as hearing or visually disabled. Working at home in comfortable surroundings with parents, children learn faster and better, and parents understand their children's problems and learn to cope with them.

County/District where located: Dade County.

Geographic area served: Dade County, Miami.

Eligibility requirements: Children must be visually and/or hearing impaired.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-3:20 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Offers instruction in cognitive, language, self-help, gross motor, fine motor, and socialization skills.

Education Services: Provides part-time transition class as part of the homebound program.

Preschool: Offers part-time transition experience class.

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**

- **Infant/preschool agency**
- **Information/referral center**
- **Low vision center/clinic**
- **Rehabilitation agency**

601 SW Eighth Avenue
Miami, FL 33130
Tel: (305) 856-2288
(305) 285-6967 (Fax)
www.miamilighthouse.org
E-mail: INFO@MiamiLighthouse.org
Roxann Mayros, President and CEO,
rmayros@miamilighthouse.org

Carol Brady-Simmons, Director of Children's Services,
carol@miamilighthouse.org
Elly du Pre', Director of Adult Services,
elly@miamilighthouse.org
Cam VanNoord, Chief Development Officer,
cam@miamilighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide individuals who are blind or visually impaired, and their families, with an environment, programs and resources that empower them to lead full independent lives.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Miami-Dade County.

Geographic area served: Miami-Dade County, Monroe County.

Eligibility requirements: Severe visual problem interfering with lifestyle.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM; Evenings and weekends also for computer labs, early intervention, O&M and vocational training.

Accessibility: Provides accessibility. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 1,500.

Staff: 48. Certified rehabilitation teachers and O&M specialists. Teachers of visually impaired with master's degrees. Certified computer instructors.

Fee structure: Fee-for-service or sliding scale for international clients. No fee for U.S. citizens.

Publications: Newsletter (3 times/year), annual report.

Additional information: Tri-Lingual (English/Spanish/Creole) staff. Other languages also possible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Counseling, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes assistive devices and appliances. Products for sale on site. Offers training in the use of adaptive devices for elderly individuals.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides training in braille, gesticulation, handwriting, listening, and typing skills.

Computer Training: Multiple computer labs with latest technology providing one-on-one and group instruction in access to technology and vocational preparation. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, braille technology, GPS systems, rehabilitation engineering, on-site set-up, vocational placement. Specific skills identified by client.

Counseling: Conducts social evaluation and psychological testing. Individual counseling and support groups for visually impaired people and their families, parents, and spouses. Referrals to community services.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation and career and skill counseling. Refers to other agencies for employment-oriented services. Provides rehabilitation engineering services for clients/employers. Works in conjunction with other training programs for additional software training and placement.

Information and Referral: Maintains a clearinghouse of information on blindness in South Florida.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides counseling, guidance, and training of parents for child management and training.

Professional Training: Offers orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work, special education, vocational rehabilitation, and regular in-service training programs. Open to enrollment from other agencies. Paraprofessional training with staff serving as adjunct professors at Miami Dade Community College; rehabilitation engineers consult with individuals and corporations.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts activities and special programs for elderly, such as sailing, "u-pick" and other field trips.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and home management skills. Provides sensory training in client's home and community. Provides training in daily living, low vision, and communication skills and training in the use of adaptive devices for elderly individuals.

Pinellas Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1330 Cleveland Street
Clearwater, FL 33755-5103
Tel: (727) 441-9958
(727) 441-3168 (TDD/TTY)
(727) 441-9068 (Fax)
www.pplc.us/tbl/

Marilyn Stevenson, Librarian, mstevenson@pplc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

Geographic area served: Pinellas County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Prevent Blindness Florida

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

3825 Henderson Boulevard
Suite 402
Tampa, FL 33629
Tel: (800) 817-3595 (Florida only)
(813) 874-2020
(813) 817-8792 (Fax)
www.preventblindness.org/florida/
E-mail: jtobin@preventblindnessfl.org
Sarah Jordan-Holmes, President and CEO, Florida
Affiliate, sjh@preventblindnessfl.org
Jay Tobin, Development and Programs,
jtobin@preventblindnessfl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Geographic area served: Florida.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Budget: \$800,000.

Clients served annually: 55,000.

Staff: 4 full-time and 3 part-time.

Fee structure: A fee may be charged for vision screenings or other services if a grant to cover the cost of the service is not available.

Publications: Informational brochures about eye diseases and eye safety in large print and in English and Spanish.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers informational speeches about the eye and diseases, eye safety presentations.

Health/Medical: Provides vision screening for early childhood and preschool children. Provides vision screenings for acuity and glaucoma detection for the elderly.

Information and Referral: Distributes brochures and videos about eye diseases, eye health and eye safety.

Library: Maintains full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Offers certified courses in vision screening for children, adults, photoscreening.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Florida Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

6704 SW 80th Street

Miami, FL 33143

Tel: (800) 535-0552 (In Florida only)

(305) 666-0552

(305) 667-2505 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: info@rfbd.org

Christine McCarthy, Executive Director,

cmccarthy@rfbd.org

Kathleen Fisler, Production Director, kfisler@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Miami-Dade

County/PBCS.

Geographic area served: National/state/local.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Tues., Wed., Thurs. 5:00 PM-7:30 PM; Sat. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Palm Beach County Studio hours TBA.

Accessibility: Most client interaction done by mail and phone.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: A mix of staff and volunteers.

Fee structure: Please refer to www.rfbd.org.

Publications: Annual Report, Impact Newsletter, Volunteers newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats

(cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of**

content: Textbooks, reference materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Works with parents and educators of children in K-12 grades to facilitate use of library on individual/institutional basis.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Boca Raton: Palm Beach County Studio, Florida

Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

4210 77th Street East

Palmetto, FL 34221

Tel: (941) 729-5665

(941) 729-6646 (Fax)

www.guidedogs.org

E-mail: info@guidedogs.org

Robert DeBusk, Executive Director,

rdebusk@guidedogs.org

Rick Holden, Director of Training,

rholden@guidedogs.org

Rita Princivalli, Admissions,

rprincivalli@guidedogs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer free of charge, a unique opportunity to achieve independent travel with safety and dignity to blind men and women, through the use of professionally and humanely trained guide dogs.

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: Manatee County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Southeastern United States. However, graduates reside in 36 states.

Eligibility requirements: Blind; good physical health; O&M proficiency; financial competence to care for a dog.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, 1 level.

Residential Facilities: Total of 9 double rooms.

Budget: \$2,850,000.

Clients served annually: 80-90.

Staff: 58. 43 full-time, 15 part-time, plus volunteers.

Fee structure: Applicants pay for their own travel.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Member of the International Guide Dog Federation.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training, handling techniques, safety issues, total dog care.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Concord: North Carolina Outreach, PO Box 929, Concord, NC 28026

Villa Rica: Georgia Outreach, 1535 Lake Paradise Road,
Villa Rica, GA 30180

Stephens Publishing Company

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Talking Book Library, Jacksonville Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1755 Edgewood Avenue, West
Suite 1

Jacksonville, FL 32208-7206

Tel: (904) 765-5588

(904) 768-7822 (TDD/TTY)

(904) 768-7404 (Fax)

www.jpl.coj.net

Jerry Reynolds, Librarian Senior/Talking Book, (904)
924-5387

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a subregional talking book library for the blind and physically handicapped in Duval County and to provide recorded and braille materials to blind and physically disabled persons.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Duval County.

Geographic area served: Duval County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Clients served annually: 1623.

Staff: 5. 1 Librarian Senior, 1 Library Assistant, 1 Clerical Support Aide II, 1 Temp/Full-time Clerk, 1 Library Page.

Publications: The Insight (quarterly publication).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, descriptive videos in VHS and DVD format, magazine subscriptions on 4-track tape and reading materials dealing with disabilities.

Talking Book Library of Dade and Monroe Counties, Miami-Dade Public Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2455 NW 183 Street

Miami, FL 33056-3641

Tel: (800) 451-9544 (Toll free in Florida)

(305) 751-8687

(305) 474-7258 (TDD/TTY)

(305) 757-8401 (Fax)

www.mdpls.org/services/outreach/talk_books.asp

E-mail: talkingbooks@mdpls.org

Barbara L. Moyer, Librarian, moyerb@mdpls.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Miami-Dade County.

Geographic area served: Dade and Monroe Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical disabilities that make it difficult to read or use standard print. Institutions serving eligible individuals may also receive service.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: All services are free of charge, including the loan of recorded and braille books and magazines, playback equipment, and all postage.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Books Library, Brevard County Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

308 Forrest Avenue

Cocoa, FL 32922-7781

Tel: (321) 633-1810

(321) 633-1838 (TDD/TTY)

(321) 633-1838 (Fax)

www.brev.org

Kay Briley, Librarian, kbriley@brev.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library materials in alternative formats to county residents who have visual and physical impairments.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Brevard County.

Geographic area served: Brevard County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps. Transportation available to and from facility.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Assistive Products: Has the following assistive devices: Braille embosser, braillewriter, CCTV, hardware-software for hard-copy large print, magnifier, OCR, screen enlarger.

Audiodescription: Maintains a descriptive video collection and actively searches for videos pertinent to programs that are audibly described.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Local government brochures.

Community Outreach Programs: Makes speaking engagements and school visits.

Information and Referral: Maintains an extensive vertical file which includes aging issues and directories on aging and disabilities.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Books, Palm Beach County Library Annex

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

4639 Lake Worth Road

Mil-Lake Plaza

Lake Worth, FL 33463

Tel: (561) 649-5500

(561) 649-5402 (Fax)

www.pbclibrary.org/outreach-talkingbooks.htm

E-mail: talkingbooks@pbclibrary.org

Pat S. Mistretta, Librarian, Outreach Services, (561) 649-5491

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide reading material to print-disabled, legally blind, visually impaired, reading-disabled or physically disabled adults and children and institutions or schools serving print-disabled persons.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Palm Beach County.

Geographic area served: Palm Beach County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Funded by: Endowments, government grants, state funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1106 West Platt Street

Tampa, FL 33606

Tel: (813) 251-2407

(813) 254-4305 (Fax)

www.tampalighthouse.org

E-mail: TLH@tampalighthouse.org

Cliff Olstrom, Executive Director,

Director@tampalighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To maximize independence and provide employment opportunities for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1940.

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Hillsborough, Polk, Hardee, Citrus, Sumter Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired, multiply impaired blind or visually impaired children and adults.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Staff: 27 full time; 3 part time.

Publications: Annual report, newsletter, brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes various adaptive aids and devices. Products for sale on site and online.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation in rehabilitation technology and job analysis to other agencies.

Counseling: Offers social evaluations, counseling (individual, group, family/parent, couple), placement in training, referral to community services.

Early Intervention: Offers services to maximize child readiness for school and age-appropriate functioning of the child. Offers training in sensory, cognitive, and social development.

Employment: Provides vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, on-the-job training program, vocational placement, supported employment, rehabilitation technology.

Information and Referral: Provides referral to other agencies and services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to parents of children ages 0-5.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, communication skills, kitchen skills, typing, use of video magnifier, home management, sensory training. Offers center-based and community-based instruction.

LOCAL OFFICES

Winter Haven: 206 Avenue D, NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881, Sheryl Brown

Temple Sisterhood Braille Group

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

8727 San Jose Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32217
Tel: (904) 733-7078

Janet E. Nullet, President, (904) 461-0255,
Jan4sunfun@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe print materials into braille.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Duval County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Florida.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Staff: All volunteers except two Library of Congress certified braille proofreaders.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Recreational, career, vocational.

United States Blind Golf Association (USBGA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

University of Florida College of Medicine: Department of Ophthalmology, Low Vision Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

P.O. Box 100284, JHMH
University of Florida College of Medicine
Gainesville, FL 32610
Tel: (352) 265-0860
www.eye.ufl.edu/clinerv.htm

George M. Hope, Director, Low Vision Services,
gmhope@eye1.eye.ufl.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Alachua County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral required.

Hours of operation: Tues. by appointment.

Staff: Personnel from the University of Florida Medical School's Department of Ophthalmology staff the Eye Center's Low Vision Service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

VA Medical Center
7305 N. Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33410
Tel: (561) 422-8426
(561) 422-5349 (Fax)

Edward Seiler, Director
John H. Getz, Chief, John.Getz@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Alabama, Georgia, Florida.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists in making an emotional and behavioral adjustment to blindness through individual counseling sessions and group therapy meetings.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers a variety of skill courses designed to help blinded veterans achieve a realistic level of independence. These skill areas include orientation and mobility, communication skills,

activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social/recreational activities.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Alabama.

Veterans Administration Hospital: Low Vision Service, Eye Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

13000 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard

Tampa, FL 33612

Tel: (813) 972-7674

(813) 910-4003 (Fax)

Tony Kirskey, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Eligibility requirements: Veteran; referral only.

Hours of operation: 2 days per month, by appointment only.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Visually Impaired Persons of Southwest Florida

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

35 West Mariana Avenue

North Ft. Myers, FL 33918-3464

Tel: (239) 997-7797

(239) 997-8462 (Fax)

www.vipcenter.org/

E-mail: avp.agalella@earthlink.net

Armando V. Galella, Executive Director,

vip.agalella@earthlink.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide programs and services that allow the blind and visually impaired to live as independently as they choose.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Lee County, Collier County.

Geographic area served: Southwest Florida, especially Lee and Collier Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Severe visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM, Fri. 8:30 AM-12:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$775,000.

Clients served annually: 400.

Staff: 14. 8 full-time, 6 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Portion of transportation costs, third party for low vision.

Publications: Annual Report, brochures, etc.

Additional information: The Visually Impaired Persons of Southwest Florida is an agency founded by people who are blind or visually impaired to serve the blind and visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation; individual, group, family counseling. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Offers job development for computer students.

Health/Medical: Offers recreational therapy. Refers and contracts for other health services. Provides consultation to other agencies.

Low Vision: Offers screening for magnification. Low vision practitioner available.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts programs, special interest events, speakers and activities, trips, and weekend programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, braille, typing, handwriting, remedial education, home management, sensory training. Services provided primarily at the center. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for rehabilitation services.

Watson Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

6925 - 112th Circle North, Suite 103

Largo, FL 33773

Tel: (727) 544-4433

(727) 544-5511 (Fax)

www.watsoncenter.org

Daniel T. Mann, President/CEO,

dmann@watsoncenter.org

Melba Kert, VP, Director of Programs, Program Services, mkert@watsoncenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the independence and opportunities of the 40,000 residents of Pinellas County who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Pinellas County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Pinellas County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals of all ages from birth to seniors who are blind or visually impaired including those with best-corrected vision of 20/70 or less, or with a condition whose prognosis is expected to lead to eventual blindness, or whose central field of vision is less than 20 degrees. Individuals should reasonably be expected to benefit from services based on initial evaluations and assessments. Many clients meet the Division of Blind Services requirements.

Ages served: 0 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$1,980,000.

Clients served annually: 1,300.

Staff: 38. Licensed optometrist, rehabilitation counselor, certified O&M specialists, certified rehabilitation teachers, licensed physical therapist, licensed speech and language pathologist, certified vision teachers.

Publications: Newsletters and brochures.

Additional information: Watson Center is the sole, private not-for-profit agency serving the blind and visually impaired in Pinellas County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Offers coping and advocacy training to help individuals deal with vision loss.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy, Assistive Products, Braille and Reading Instruction, Computer Training, Counseling, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Operates an on-site product store, which features hundreds of specialty low vision items and adaptive products like magnifiers, video magnifiers, customized lighting, talking watches and clocks, big button phones, large print calendars and address books, check writing guides, and talking scales. Open to the public.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers reading and writing instruction in braille I and II, slate & stylus, and dymo-labeler.

Computer Training: Offers computer training with access technology such as speech software, screen magnification software, and portable notetakers. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers group, individual, and family counseling.

Early Intervention: Offers out-patient therapies, including vision, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and therapeutic play groups. Services are offered at the Center, in the homes and in the community.

Employment: Provides training in keyboarding, computer, and access technology. Has a model office simulating the office environment for students to practice their skills. Offers supported employment services to individuals referred by the Division of Blind Services. Offers a Transition Program in the summer for students who will transition to employment.

In-Home Services: Rehabilitation teachers assist individuals in their homes with individualized instruction such as personal management, writing, marking and labeling, organization, adaptive kitchen skills, home and personal safety, and use of adaptive devices.

Information and Referral: Case managers provide individuals with information and referrals to appropriate resources within the community.

Low Vision: Specially trained optometrist and low vision staff provide evaluations, prescriptions for low vision optical aids and devices, recommendations for special adaptive techniques, training in the use of adaptive devices and techniques and follow-up care.

Orientation and Mobility: Services include precane techniques, use of the long cane, use of a support cane, indoor travel skills, outdoor travel skills with and without sidewalks, orientation skills to navigate unfamiliar areas, street crossing techniques, and the use of public transportation. Preparatory training to obtain a dog guide and/or follow-up training upon return with a new dog guide is also available. O&M specialists also provide orientation to new environments with specific training offered as directly related to the individual's needs.

Parent Assistance: Children's Program offers parent training, counseling, advocacy, and education.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, social group, current events, music appreciation, therapeutic yoga, speakers and special event activities.

Rehabilitation: Offers comprehensive vision rehabilitation services to adults and seniors. Service plans are developed according to the specific needs of the individual. Intensive Independent Living Skills Classes include community resources, labeling/organization, introduction to braille, money identification, telephones & talking devices, pouring & eating skills, writing skills, kitchen safety, home & personal safety, eye conditions, illumination/video magnifiers, introduction to access technology and magnification. Workshops, including adaptive kitchen skills, hand sewing, home and personal management, labeling, use of various adaptive devices, writing and audio voting, are also offered.

West Florida Regional Library, Subregional Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

200 West Gregory Street
Pensacola, FL 32501
Tel: (850) 436-5060
(850) 436-5063 (TDD/TTY)
(850) 436-5039 (Fax)
www.wfrl.lib.fl.us/talkingbooks.htm
Helen Hudson, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Tues.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sat. 8:00 AM-3:30 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Volunteer Services: Provides volunteer services.

WGCU Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

10501 FGCU Boulevard N
Ft. Myers, FL 33965
Tel: (941) 590-2530
www.wgcu.org/about_us.html
Glenn G. Sabatka, Manager, gsabatka@fgcu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To bring printed materials, via radio broadcast, to persons who are blind, physically impaired, or print handicapped.

Established: 1985.

County/District where located: Lee County.

Geographic area served: Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Print impaired and physically handicapped persons.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Office: 24 hours a day.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts news and current information from a variety of print sources, including the Ft. Myers News Press, Naples Daily News,

Charlotte Co. Sun, Cape Coral Breeze (all daily publications) plus weekly publications from area.

WLRN Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

172 NE 15th Street
Suite 222
Miami, FL 33132
Tel: (800) 273-6677 (Option #7)
(305) 995-2218
(305) 995-2299 (Fax)
www.wlrn.org
E-mail: info@wlrn.org
John LaBonia, General Manager
Mario Lozada, RRS Coordinator, lozada@wlrn.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide vital news and information to the South Florida print handicapped community.

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: Dade County.

Geographic area served: Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone unable to use print material.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-8:00 PM.

Sat.-Sun. 8:00 AM-2:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, elevator.

Publications: Voices (newsletter). Voices on Air.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from magazines, books, TV Guide, daily sports, grocery ads, and newspapers (Miami Herald, Sun Sentinel, USA Today) with the use of special radio receiver or by the use of WLRN Channel 17's Secondary Audio Program or SAP channel.

WMFE Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

11510 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, FL 32817
Tel: (407) 273-2300
(407) 273-1519 (Fax)
www.wmfe.org
E-mail: wmfe@wmfe.org
Fred Taylor, Reading Service Coordinator,
fred_taylor@wmfe.pbs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1963.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: FM-tuned sets are available to listeners in Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties.

Channel 24-tuned sets are sent to those in Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Polk, and Volusia Counties.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-11:00 PM, Sat.-Sun. 8:00 AM-11:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from primarily state and local newspapers (Orlando Sentinel, The Daytona News Beach Journal, The Osceola News Gazette, and The USA Today).

WUSF Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Radio reading station**

University of South Florida, WRB 209

4202 East Fowler Avenue

Tampa, FL 33620

Tel: (800) 444-4193

(813) 974-8635

(813) 974-5016 (Fax)

www.wusf.usf.edu

Brad Stager, Program Director, bstager@wusf.org.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide life-enhancing programming designed to promote and maintain independence among our listening audience.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Geographic area served: 7-county Tampa Bay area within 60-mile radius of city.

Eligibility requirements: Documented print disabled in order to receive specially tuned SGA radio receiver.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Handicap parking available.

Staff: Over 200 volunteers.

Fee structure: No fee. Donations appreciated.

Publications: Program Guide (available in large print, braille, and audiocassette).

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts material from a wide variety of newsstand materials, TV listings, poetry reading, store ads, drama, mystery and fantasy presentations, holiday specials. Eligible print-disabled persons receive specially tuned SGA receiver at no charge. Newspapers read include the Tampa Tribune, St. Petersburg Times, Lakeland Ledger, Venice Gondolier, USA Today, Sarasota Herald Tribune, Bradenton Herald, New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, Wall Street Journal.

Georgia

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Georgia Department of Human Resources:
Division of Aging Services
(404) 657-5258

Georgia Department of Labor, Vocational
Rehabilitation Program
(866) 489-0001

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Georgia Department of Human Resources:
Division of Public Health, Babies Can't Wait
Program
(888) 651-8224

Educational Services

Georgia State Department of Education:
Division for Exceptional Students
(404) 656-3963

Instructional Materials Center

Georgia Instructional Materials Center
(404) 362-2024

Rehabilitation Services

Georgia Department of Labor, Vocational
Rehabilitation Program
(866) 489-0001

School for the Blind

Georgia Academy for the Blind
(478) 751-6083

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Georgia Unit
Walton Options for Independent Living

Dog Guide Schools

Southeastern Guide Dogs: Georgia Outreach

Educational Agencies

DeKalb County School System: Department of Support
Services
Georgia Project for Assistive Technology

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Georgia

Libraries

Albany Library for the Blind and Handicapped,
Dougherty County Public Library (NLS)

Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped, Southwest Georgia
Regional Library (NLS)

Columbus Library for Accessible Services, W.C.
Bradley Memorial Library (NLS)

Gainesville Subregional LBPH, East Hall Branch and
Special Needs Library, Hall County Library System
(NLS)

Georgia Library for Accessible Services (NLS)

Live Oak Public Libraries, Thunderbolt Branch,
Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped (NLS)

Macon Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped, Washington Memorial Library (NLS)

North Georgia Talking Book Center (NLS)

Rome Subregional Library for People with Disabilities
(NLS)

Special Needs Library of Northeast Georgia,
Athens-Clarke County Regional Library (NLS)

Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Oconee Regional Library (NLS)
Talking Book Center, Augusta-Richmond County Public Library (NLS)
Three Rivers Regional Library, Brunswick-Glynn County Regional Library (NLS)
Valdosta Talking Book Center, South Georgia Regional Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Center for the Visually Impaired
Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation
Medical College of Georgia Eye Clinic

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Living Independence for Everyone

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Georgia Optometric Association
Georgia Society of Ophthalmology

National Organizations

American Foundation for the Blind Southeast: National Literacy Center

Radio Reading Stations

Central Savannah River Area Radio Reading Service
Georgia Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Blind and Low Vision Services of North Georgia
Center for the Visually Impaired
Georgia Industries for the Blind
Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office
Savannah Association for the Blind
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center
Walton Options for Independent Living

Schools for the Blind

Georgia Academy for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Georgia Tools for Life

Albany Library for the Blind and Handicapped, Dougherty County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

300 Pine Avenue
Albany, GA 31701
Tel: (800) 337-6251 (Local only)
(229) 420-3220
(229) 420-3240 (Fax)
www.docolib.org/lbph/index.html
E-mail: lbph@docolib.org
Kathryn R. Sinuefield, Librarian,
sinuefk@mail.dougherty.public.lib.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines on cassette for individuals who are blind, visually impaired, physically handicapped or learning disabled.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: Dougherty County.

Geographic area served: Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Dougherty, Lee, Randolph, Schley, Sumter, Terrell, and Webster Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

American Foundation for the Blind Southeast: National Literacy Center (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Bainbridge Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Southwest Georgia Regional Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

301 South Monroe Street
Bainbridge, GA 39819
Tel: (800) 795-2680
(229) 248-2680
(229) 248-2665 (TDD/TTY)
(229) 248-2670 (Fax)
www.swgrl.org
E-mail: lbph@mail.decatgur.public.lib.ga.us

Susan S. Whittle, Subregional Librarian
Kathy B. Hutchins, Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines in braille and recorded form for readers who cannot hold, handle or see well enough to read conventional print because of a temporary or permanent visual or physical handicap.

County/District where located: Decatur County.

Geographic area served: Baker, Brooks, Colquitt, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas, and Worth Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon. 10:00 AM-8:00 PM, Tues./Weds./Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM, Thurs. 9:00 AM-8:00 PM, Sat. 10:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Publications: Monthly Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Blind and Low Vision Services of North Georgia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3830 South Cobb Drive

Suite 125

Smyrna, GA 30080

Tel: (770) 432-7280

(770) 432-5457 (Fax)

[www.unitedwayatl.org/211_Database/helpbook/](http://www.unitedwayatl.org/211_Database/helpbook/UWMA0271AA.html)

UWMA0271AA.html

E-mail: blvs@bellsouth.net

Robert Crouse, Executive Director

Susanne Smith, Low Vision Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist persons who are blind or visually impaired to function independently in their environments.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Cobb County.

Geographic area served: Primarily north Georgia, but no geographic restrictions.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment, legal blindness, or total blindness.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible facility.

Residential Facilities: Accommodations are provided at local hotels for the clients taking short-term (one week) courses in computer access program (JAWS, ZoomText).

Budget: \$800,000.

Clients served annually: 400.

Staff: 10. Staff of 10, optometrists specializing in low vision provide LV Exam, O&M, Rehab Teachers provide follow-up in home, and provide all necessary rehab training.

Fee structure: Based on ability to pay for private clients. Sponsored clients from state rehabilitation of VA have own contractual fee schedules.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Maintains a low vision clinic and offers community-based rehabilitation program in nearly 30 counties in north Georgia. This includes LV followup in the home and instruction in O&M, rehabilitation teaching, ILS and communication skills.

Computer Training: Provides individualized computer instruction ranging from beginning keyboard skills to advance use of adaptive software (JAWS, ZoomText, etc). Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV. One week comprehensive training courses in JAWS, ZoomText. Courses are 6 hrs. per day for 4 or 5 straight days. Residential service is available at local hotels.

Counseling: Offers individual and family counseling. Coordinates and consults with mental health and social service agencies.

Employment: Coordinates with Division of Rehabilitation Services to provide pre-vocational training and vocational evaluation.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Coordinates activities with other agencies.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, communications, independent living skills (services provided at center and in community environments).

Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

739 West Peachtree Street, NW

Atlanta, GA 30308

Tel: (404) 875-9011

(404) 607-0062 (Fax)

www.cviatlanta.org

E-mail: info@cviatlanta.org

Subie Green, Executive Director

Harvey Clark, Director of Rehabilitation Services,

hclark@cviatlanta.org

LaDella M. Holmes-Reddick, Director, Client Services,

lhreddick@cviatlanta.org

Annie Maxwell, Director, Volunteer Services/STARS, School-Age Children's Program

Anne McComiskey, Director, BEGIN, Pre-school Program
David Patten, Director, CAS and Low Vision Clinic

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer comprehensive services to promote independence with dignity and the preservation of self worth for individuals of all ages who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1962.

County/District where located: Fulton County.

Geographic area served: Community-based services limited to local 13-county area, center-based services not limited by geographic area.

Eligibility requirements: Functional visual impairment, ophthalmological report not more than one year old.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 2500.

Staff: 48.

Additional information: All services are customized to meet the individual's personal goals toward adjustment to vision loss.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Maintains Infolink via phone and e-mail. Offers STARS activities and after-school program for school-age children and diabetes program for visually impaired diabetics.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, and family counseling, consultation, referral.

Early Intervention: Provides assessments and training through center-based and home-based services.

Education Services: Offers remedial education if recommended by vocational evaluator.

Employment: Provides vocational counseling and evaluation, work adjustment training, job exploration, internship opportunities.

Information and Referral: Refers to community services and programs.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Offers BEGIN program for preschool children and assessment and training where indicated for early intervention.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction personal management and communication skills and offers a community-based rehabilitation program for older persons and home-bound blind persons.

Central Savannah River Area Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

c/o WACG-FM, Augusta State University
2500 Walton Way
Augusta, GA 30904-2200
Tel: (706) 737-1661
(706) 729-2243 (Fax)

Allyson Stanland, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Richmond County.

Geographic area served: 90-mile radius from Augusta.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-12:00 noon.

Staff: All volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts novels, magazine articles, educational materials, and other material requested by listeners. Publications include the Augusta Chronicle, Atlanta Journal, Wall Street Journal, and many other local and state newspapers.

Columbus Library for Accessible Services, W.C. Bradley Memorial Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1120 Bradley Drive
Columbus, GA 31906-2813
Tel: (800) 652-0782
(706) 649-0780
(706) 649-0974 (TDD/TTY)
(706) 649-1914 (Fax)

Suzanne Barnes, Librarian, sbarnes@cvrls.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Muscogee County.

Geographic area served: Chattahoochee, Coweta, Harris, Marion, Meriwether, Muscogee, Quitman, Stewart, Talbot, Taylor, Troup, and Upson Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

DeKalb County School System: Department of Support Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

5839 Memorial Drive
East DeKalb Campus
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Tel: (678) 676-1200
(678) 676-1888 (Fax)
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/

Nancy A. Buice, Coordinator, Visually Impaired and
Orthopedically Impaired Programs, Support
Services, nancy_buice@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us
Carla Hawkins, Counselor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1910.

County/District where located: DeKalb County.

Geographic area served: DeKalb County.

Eligibility requirements: Visual activity ranging from
partially sighted (20/70) to total blindness.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, lifts and elevators.
Braille signage in some schools. Transportation
available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Optical character recognition
systems, screen magnification systems, speech output
systems, training for instructors, video
magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Low incidence counselor works with
visually impaired students in group or individual
sessions.

Education Services: Provides psychological and
educational evaluations to DeKalb students in grades
K-12. Makes referrals for evaluation through the
student support team in the respective schools.

Preschool: Provides evaluation, diagnostic work-up,
determination of individualized education for
preschool-aged children, birth to age 3. Provides
home-based, day-care-center-based, or school-based
services. Itinerant certified teacher advises, assists.

Gainesville Subregional LBPH, East Hall Branch and Special Needs Library, Hall County Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2434 Old Cornelia Highway
Gainesville, GA 30507
Tel: (770) 531-2500
(770) 531-2530 (TDD/TTY)
(770) 531-2502 (Fax)

www.hallcountylibrary.org/ehmap.htm

Susan Stewart, Librarian,
sstewart@hallcountylibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library services to the special
needs population in Hall County, including blind,
physically handicapped, hearing impaired and visually
challenged.

Established: 1997.

County/District where located: Hall County.

Geographic area served: Hall County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical
impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 10:00 AM-7:00 PM,
Fri.-Sat. 10:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Some braille signage. Wheelchair
accessible.

Publications: Talking Book Times (bi-monthly
newsletter).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and
audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped
persons.

Georgia Academy for the Blind (GAB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

2895 Vineville Avenue
Macon, GA 31204
Tel: (478) 751-6083

(478) 751-6659 (Fax)

www.gabmacon.org

E-mail: darensman@doe.k12.ga.us

Dorothy Arensman, School Director,
darensma@doe.k12.ga.us

Barbara Geter, Assistant Director for Instruction, (478)
751-6088, bgeter@doe.k12.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower students to reach their highest
level of independence.

Established: 1852.

County/District where located: Bibb County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Resident of Georgia, legally
blind or legally blind-multiply disabled (mentally
impaired, hearing impaired).

Hours of operation: Residential services available
Sunday evening through Friday.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available
to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories available for students.

Staff: 117 full-time. Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers comprehensive psychoeducational evaluation for visually impaired students placed in state residential school for the blind or in local school system.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides ongoing consultation/technical assistance to local school systems.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation, individual/group/family-parent counseling, placement in school. Provides consultation to other agencies. Refers to community services.

Education Services: Offers grades K-12 and programs for college preparatory, general academic, vocational/skill development. Offers summer school programs. Accepts visually impaired and visually impaired-multiply disabled.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational and vocational evaluation, career counseling, occupational skill development, vocational placement. Refers for noncompetitive settings through rehabilitation services.

Health/Medical: Provides general medical services, occupational and physical therapy, speech therapy. Refers for other health services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers assistance as needed or requested. Provides information about technology for people who are visually impaired, special parent workshops, summer camps, and educational programs for parents of academy students and of students in public schools.

Preschool: Preschool programs available for children ages 3 and 4.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work, special education, vocational rehabilitation. Holds annual workshop for teachers of students who are visually impaired.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, bowling, swimming, track, wrestling, softball, indoor games, cheerleading, intramural sports, scouting.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, listening skills, typing, home management, remedial education, sensory training.

Georgia Department of Human Resources: Division of Aging Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

Two Peachtree Street, NW
9th floor

Atlanta, GA 30303-3142

Tel: (404) 657-5258

(404) 657-1929 (TDD/TTY)

(404) 657-5285 (Fax)

www.dhr.state.ga.us

Maria A. Greene, Director, Aging Services,
magreene@dhr.state.ga.us

Patsy McDoodle, Information and Referral Specialist 2,
(404) 657-5319, plmcdood@dhr.state.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist older Georgians in achieving healthy, independent, and self-sufficient lives.

County/District where located: Fulton County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Varies with different programs; 60 and over; skilled nursing home eligible; resident of long-term care facility.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Access guide; numerous public education materials on Medicaid, Medicare, public benefits, advance directives, end-of-life decision making, and others.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training, Counseling, Employment, Financial Assistance, Information and Referral, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provided through specific programs such as the MCBS programs.

Community Outreach Programs: Provided to the elderly through Area Agencies on Aging.

Computer Training: Provides computer training for seniors. Computer operating systems, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provided through specific programs.

Counseling: Provided through specific programs.

Employment: Offers Senior Community Service Employment Program.

Financial Assistance: Administers Older Americans Act funding through area agencies on aging, home and community-based services program and state Alzheimer's program.

Information and Referral: Provides information on aging issues through community education programs.

Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Recreation: Provides recreational opportunities for the elderly people through Area Agencies on Aging.

Rehabilitation: Provided through Georgia Division of Rehabilitation Services.

Georgia Department of Human Resources: Division of Public Health, Babies Can't Wait Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Two Peachtree Street, NW
#11-206

Atlanta, GA 30303-3186

Tel: (888) 651-8224

(404) 657-2726

(404) 657-2763 (Fax)

www.health.state.ga.us/programs/bcw

E-mail: gdphinfo@dhr.state.ga.us

B. J. Walker, Commissioner

Stephanie Moss, Part C Coordinator,
skmoss@dhr.state.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Fulton County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Eligibility based upon each child's developmental status and/or presence of certain medical diagnoses.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Budget: \$12,000,000.

Clients served annually: 8300.

Fee structure: Sliding fee scale for families for some services. Scale based upon family size, income, and other factors.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Georgia's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Georgia Department of Labor, Vocational Rehabilitation Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

1700 Century Circle

Suite 300

Atlanta, GA 30345-3020

Tel: (866) 489-0001

(404) 638-0376

(866) 373-7778 (TDD/TTY)

(404) 486-0197 (Fax)

www.vocrehabga.org

Kay McGill, State Coordinator for the Blind, Blind, Deaf, and Deaf-Blind, Kay.McGill@dol.state.ga.us

Karen Boyer, Manager, Workforce Development Unit, Product Support Unit, (404) 235-0153,
Karen.Boyer@dol.state.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help persons with disabilities find employment.

County/District where located: Statewide.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation services. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and over who are severely visually impaired (Older Blind Program).

Georgia Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

700 Faceville Highway

Bainbridge, GA 31718-0218

Tel: (229) 248-2666

(229) 248-2669 (Fax)

www.vocrehabga.org/indus.html

James P. Hughes, Executive Director, Department of Human Resources/Division of Rehabilitation Services, (912) 248-2666, (912) 248-2669 (Fax),
jphughes@dhr.state.ga.us

Al Hardy, Plant Manager-Griffin, (770) 229-3309, (770) 229-3321 (Fax)

Kevin Kelley, Plant Manager-Bainbridge, (229) 248-2667

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment opportunities for individuals who are severely visually impaired.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: Decatur County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind. Under 18 must be cleared by school superintendent. Services for totally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind clients.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: All buildings meet ADA requirements.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides employment opportunities for individuals who are severely visually impaired.

LOCAL OFFICES

Griffin: Emlet Drive, Griffin, GA 30224

Georgia Instructional Materials Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

528 Forest Parkway
Suite C
Forest Park, GA 30297
Tel: (404) 362-2024 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(404) 608-2559 (Fax)
www.gimc.org
E-mail: gimc@doe.k12.ga.us
Kim Hartsell, Director, khartsel@doe.k12.ga.us
Jim Downs, Technical Services Specialist,
jdowns@doe.k12.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance student achievement through providing access to appropriate format instructional materials.

Established: 1998.

County/District where located: Clayton County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Students with visual impairments who require alternate format materials (braille, large-type, and others).

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides braille, large print textbooks, and materials to Georgia's public schools for student's who are blind or visually impaired.

Education Services: Produces and obtains instructional materials in alternate formats for students ages 3-21.

Library: Maintains lending library of instructional materials (textbooks, etc.) in alternate formats and tangible aids.

Professional Training: Offers workshops on production and use of instructional materials in alternate formats.

Georgia Library for Accessible Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1150 Murphy Avenue, SW
Atlanta, GA 30310
Tel: (800) 248-6701
(404) 756-4619
(404) 756-4618 (Fax)
www.georgialibraries.org/public/glass.html
E-mail: glass@georgialibraries.org
Linda B. Stetson, Regional Librarian-Director, (404)
756-4476, lsetson@georgialibraries.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines in braille and on cassette tape to qualified individuals who are unable to read standard print due to a visual or physical disability.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Fulton.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Clients served annually: 25,000 statewide.

Staff: 8.

Fee structure: No fees.

Additional information: GLASS is the Regional library for Georgia within the NLS network.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Library: Provides talking books and magazines, talking book machines and accessories, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically disabled persons.

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1775 Clairmont Road
Decatur, GA 30033-4005
Tel: (800) 718-7483
(404) 325-3630
(404) 636-5549 (Fax)
www.galion.org/lighthouse
Linda B. Hauptfuhrer, M. Div., Executive Director,
lindah@ga-lions-lighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye examinations, eye treatments, eye surgery, low vision devices, eyeglasses, artificial eyes, and hearing aids to Georgia residents in financial need.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: Dekalb County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Residents of Georgia.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Staff: 5 full-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Performs eye surgery and provides eyeglasses.

Georgia Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

1000 Corporate Center Drive
Suite 240

Morrow, GA 30260

Tel: (800) 949-0060

(770) 961-9866

(770) 961-9965 (Fax)

www.goaeyes.com

E-mail: GOAeyes@aol.com

Georgianne Bearden, Executive Director,
gbear79180@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1904.

County/District where located: Clayton County.

Georgia Project for Assistive Technology (GPAT)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Educational agency**

528 Forest Parkway
Suite C

Forest Park, GA 30297

Tel: (404) 362-2024 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(404) 608-2559 (Fax)

www.gpat.org

E-mail: gpat@doe.k12.ga.us

Kim G. Hartsell, Project Director, Georgia Project for
Assistive Technology, khartsel@doe.k12.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance educator knowledge and expertise in assistive technology to ensure that students with disabilities have access to the assistive technology that they need in order to participate in and benefit from their educational programs.

Established: 1991.

County/District where located: Clayton County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Students age 3-21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Public funds.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Assistive Technology News (3 times per year).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts assistive technology evaluations to determine technology needs.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides support in developing assistive technology programs. Provides technical assistance to service providers working with students with visual impairments.

Education Services: Provides support for the use of assistive technologies in the education of persons age 3-21 with visual impairment in Georgia. Performs evaluations to determine specific assistive technology needs of students who are visually impaired.

Library: Maintains a library with assistive technology devices.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Provides information for parents about assistive technology devices and services.

Preschool: Offers evaluation and technical assistance to students ages 3-5.

Professional Training: Offers intensive professional development workshops on a variety of assistive technology topics. Offers professional development workshops through distance learning.

Georgia Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Radio reading station**

260 14th Street, NW

Atlanta, GA 30318-5360

Tel: (877) 937-3378

(404) 685-2820

(404) 685-2821 (Fax)

www.galinks.com/garrrs

April E. Cline, Executive Director, acline@gpb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide blind and print-handicapped Georgians with access to the printed word. Staffed almost entirely by volunteers who read articles from more than 120 magazines and 35 newspapers which are broadcast on a daily basis.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Fulton County.

Geographic area served: Atlanta metropolitan area: 100 miles to the south, 70 miles to the north and west, 30 miles to the east.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired Georgians.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours daily.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Fee structure: For radios, a \$35 donation is asked.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from books, newspapers and magazines over the air to people who are visually impaired throughout the state of Georgia.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Macon: 182 Riley Avenue, Macon, GA 31204

Savannah: 3025 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31405

Georgia Society of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Professional membership organization**

487 Winn Way, Suite 100

Deatur, GA 30030

Tel: (404) 299-6588

(404) 299-7029 (Fax)

Lasa Joiner, Executive Director,

lasaj@jlh-consulting.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information and quality care to the citizens of Georgia in an affordable and accessible manner.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

**Georgia State Department of Education:
Division for Exceptional Students**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ State educational services**

1870 Twin Towers East

Atlanta, GA 30334-5040

Tel: (404) 656-3963

(404) 651-6457 (Fax)

www.doe.k12.ga.us/curriculum/exceptional/index.asp

Marlene Bryar, Interim Executive Director,

mbryar@doe.k12.ga.us

Mary Phagan-Kean, Consultant, Visual Impairments,

mphagank@doe.k12.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure that all students with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepares them for employment and independent living.

Established: 1951.

County/District where located: Fulton County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Up-to-date medical and educational assessment showing evidence that vision interferes with educational functioning.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:15 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: Meets ADA requirements.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides advice, assistance, and consultative support to local school systems, vision educators, and other agencies or professionals.

Education Services: Oversees K-12 programs for blind and visually impaired students in Georgia.

Preschool: Operates Georgia PINES.

Professional Training: Provides professional development opportunities through state improvement grant.

Georgia Tools for Life

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ State technology program**

Georgia Department of Labor

Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Assistive Technology Unit

1700 Century Circle B-4, Suite 300

Atlanta, GA 30345

Tel: (800) 497-8665

(404) 638-0385

(404) 638-3085 (TDD/TTY)

(404) 486-0218 (Fax)

www.gatfl.org

E-mail: info@gatfl.org

Christopher Lee, Program Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1991.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Promotes and participates in grass root advocacy efforts and policy issues, and collaborates with public and private partners interested in increasing assistive technology.

Financial Assistance: Offers resources for finding funding sources for AT devices and services.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services through a statewide toll-free number as well as publications and resources.

Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Rehabilitation agency**

7220 Sallie Mood Drive

Savannah, GA 31416

Tel: (912) 354-6611 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(912) 354-3787 (Fax)

www.goodwillsavannahga.org

E-mail: info@goodwillsavannahga.org

William G. Oakley, President and CEO,
ceoadmin@goodwillsavannahga.org
Patricia Jenkins-Spady, CRC, Director, Employment
and Training

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired, learning disabled, mentally retarded, physically and emotionally disabled persons.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Chatham County.

Geographic area served: 29 counties of southeast Georgia and 3 in South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: 16 years or older; able to care for self, not dangerous to self or others.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides full diagnostic vocational assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print).

Computer Training: Database software, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Offers social evaluations, individual counseling, referrals to community services, referrals to other counseling or social services.

Education Services: Offers adult basic education and GED preparation program.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, sheltered workshops, vocational placement, follow-up service, and refers for vending stand training.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1003 Virginia Avenue
Suite 104
Atlanta, GA 30354
Tel: (404) 766-9625
(404) 766-2820 (TDD/TTY)
(404) 766-3447 (Fax)
www.hknc.org

Susan Lascek, Regional Representative,
slhknc4@aol.com
Linda Collins, Secretary, linda4hknc@aol.com
Monika McJannet Werner, Regional Representative,
mw4hknc@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies.

Geographic area served: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Serves individuals who have both a vision and hearing loss, their families and agencies who work with them.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Only at the Helen Keller National Center in NY while in training.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Live Oak Public Libraries, Thunderbolt Branch, Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2708 Mechanics Avenue
Savannah, GA 31404
Tel: (800) 342-4455
(912) 354-5864
(912) 354-5534 (TDD/TTY)
(912) 354-5534 (Fax)
www.liveoakpl.org
E-mail: lbphsav@liveoakpl.org
Linda Stokes, Librarian, stokesl@liveoakpl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Chatham County.

Geographic area served: Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Jenkins, Liberty, and Screven Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. 2:00 PM-6:00 PM, Tues.-Thurs. 11:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Living Independence for Everyone

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

17-21 Travis Street
Savannah, GA 31406

Tel: (800) 948-4824

(912) 920-2414

(912) 920-2419 (TDD/TTY)

(912) 920-0007 (Fax)

www.lifecil.com

Bart Brophy, Executive Director, bbrophy@lifecil.com
Polly Johansen, Office Manager/Bookkeeper, (912)
920-2314, pjohansen@lifecil.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower people with disabilities to achieve equal rights, equal opportunity, and integration into the community.

Geographic area served: Chatham, Bulloch, Bryan, Evans, Camden, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Tattnall, Toombs, and McIntosh Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Must have a disability.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers peer support.

Information and Referral: Provides information on issues involving people with disabilities, such as independent living issues; disability rights; legislation on local, state and federal levels; and services available from other organizations.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills.

Macon Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Washington Memorial Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1180 Washington Avenue

Macon, GA 31201-1790

Tel: (800) 805-7613

(912) 744-0877

(912) 744-0877 (TDD/TTY)

(912) 742-3161 (Fax)

www.co.bibb.ga.us/library/TBC.htm

Joan Anderson, Head of Branch Services,
andersoj@mail.bibb.public.lib.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Bibb County.

Geographic area served: Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Macon, Peach, Twiggs, and Wilkinson Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Macon Telegraph.

Medical College of Georgia Eye Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1120 15th Street

Department of Ophthalmology

School of Medicine

Augusta, GA 30912-3400

Tel: (706) 721-2020

(706) 721-1156 (Fax)

Julian Nussbaum, Chairman, Department of
Ophthalmology

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Richmond County.

Geographic area served: Georgia and South Carolina primarily; no restriction on referrals.

Eligibility requirements: Recent ophthalmological examination with report and referral or an examination in the medical college clinic.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 1st, 3rd, 5th Thursday afternoons of the month.

Funded by: State funds.

Staff: Ophthalmologists; ophthalmology residents; ophthalmic technologist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Provides routine as well as medical and surgical eye care for adults and children with ocular disease.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes optical devices.

North Georgia Talking Book Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

305 South Duke Street
LaFayette, GA 30728

Tel: (888) 506-0509

(706) 638-1958

(706) 638-4913 (Fax)

www.walker.public.lib.ga.us

Charles Stubblefield, Manager,
stubblec@mail.walker.public.lib.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide general library services to persons unable to read standard print.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Walker County.

Geographic area served: Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Gordon, Murray, Towns, Union, Walker, and Whitfield Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual/physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 1 full-time, 1 part-time.

Fee structure: No fee required.

Publications: Focus (monthly newsletter).

Additional information: Subregional library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Prevent Blindness Georgia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

455 East Paces Ferry Road
Suite 222

Atlanta, GA 30305

Tel: (404) 266-0071

(404) 266-0860 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org/georgia/

Jenny R. Pomeroy, President,
jpomeroy_pbg@bellsouth.net

Cindy Bachman, Development Director
Darlene Hutto, Office Manager
Laurie Irby, Program Director
Peggy McKenzie, Adult Program Coordinator
Laura White, Special Events Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight for the people of Georgia.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Fulton County.

Geographic area served: Georgia.

Eligibility requirements: Varies by program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, private donations, state funds.

Publications: Newsletter and Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Health/Medical: Provides vision screenings for children. Provides eye examinations and low cost eyeglasses for medically underserved homeless and elderly people as well as patients with diabetes delivered through their local service agencies.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and teaching eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Savannah: 3025 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31405

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Georgia Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

120 Florida Avenue
Athens, GA 30605

Tel: (706) 549-1313

(706) 227-6161 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: info@rfbd.org

Lenora Martin, Executive Director, lmartin@rfbd.org

John Marshall, Director Unit Operations,
jcmarrshall@rfbd.org

Bill Pass, Educational Outreach Coordinator,
bpas@rfbd.org

Gail Smith, Volunteer Recruiter, gsmith@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Clarke County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM., Fri. 8:30 AM-12:00 PM.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 2 full-time, 4 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Rome Subregional Library for People with Disabilities

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

205 Riverside Parkway NE

Rome, GA 30161-2911

Tel: (888) 263-0769

(706) 236-4618 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(706) 236-4631 (Fax)

www.rome-lpd.org

E-mail: staff@rome-lpd.org

Diana Mills, Librarian, dmills@rome-lpd.org

Brenda Treadaway, Reader's Advisor,

btreadaway@rome-lpd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Floyd County.

Geographic area served: Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Douglas, Floyd, Gilmer, Haralson, Heard, Paulding, Pickens, and Polk Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible by public transportation. TDD for communicating with the Deaf. Alternate formats.

Clients served annually: 685.

Staff: 2.5. Librarian, reader's advisor, and technician.

Fee structure: No cost.

Publications: Monthly newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Rockmart Journal, Cedartown Standard, Rome News Tribune.

Savannah Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

214 Drayton Street

Savannah, GA 31401-4021

Tel: (912) 236-4473

(912) 234-4156 (Fax)

Walt Simmons, Executive Director,
wsimmons@sabinc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide ongoing programs and services designed to help blind and visually impaired persons adjust to and cope with their vision loss.

Established: 1963.

County/District where located: Chatham County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 8 full-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides pre-assessment and post-assessment to determine functional capacities.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides training in communication skills.

Community Outreach Programs: Community outreach provided.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling; social evaluations; referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services.

Employment: Refers for employment-oriented services.

Information and Referral: Refers for vocational, educational, library services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers family counseling.

Preschool: Offers preschool services for children with visual impairments, in-home and family support services, transition to day care and preschool settings, consultation for workers in other preschool programs.

Professional Training: Offers internship/field work, placement in social work and rehabilitation training, regular in-service training program.

Recreation: Provides adult day care services, leisure education. Refers for recreational activities, consultation to other recreation providers.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills, communication skills, and the use of adaptive devices.

Southeastern Guide Dogs: Georgia Outreach

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

1535 Lake Paradise Road

Villa Rica, GA 30180

Tel: (770) 459-2051

(770) 459-5124 (Fax)

www.guidedogs.org

E-mail: info@guidedogs.org

Charlene Castleman, Puppy Program Coordinator,

ccastleman@guidedogs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer free of charge, a unique opportunity to achieve independent travel with safety and dignity to blind men and women, through the use of professionally and humanely trained guide dogs.

Eligibility requirements: Blind; good physical health; financial competence to care for a dog.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training, handling techniques, safety issues, total dog care.

Special Needs Library of Northeast Georgia, Athens-Clarke County Regional Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2025 Baxter Street

Athens, GA 30606-6331

Tel: (800) 531-2063 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(706) 613-3655 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(800) 531-2063 (TDD/TTY)

(706) 613-3660 (Fax)

www.clarke.public.lib.ga.us/specialneedslibrary.html

E-mail: specialneedslibrary@athenslibrary.org

Stacey L. Chandler, Manager of the Special Needs

Library, (706) 613-3650, schandler@athenslibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Clarke County.

Geographic area served: Clarke, Banks, Barrow, Elbert, Franklin, Greene, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hancock, Hart, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Putnam, Rabun, Stephens, Walton and White Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: State funds.

Staff: 2 full-time, 3 part-time, 20-30 volunteers.

Publications: monthly newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services on request.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, descriptive videos, some braille, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Athens Banner Herald, Oconee Enterprise, Oglethorpe Echo, Gwinnett Daily Post (recorded on cassette).

Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Oconee Regional Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

801 Bellevue Avenue

Dublin, GA 31040

Tel: (800) 453-5541

(478) 275-5382

(478) 275-3821 (TDD/TTY)

(478) 272-0524 (Fax)

www.laurens.public.lib.ga.us/lbph.htm

April Warren, Manager, Dublin Talking Books, Special Services Department,

awarren@mail.laurens.public.lib.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide NLS subregional library services to eligible visually or physically handicapped people in 13 counties of Georgia.

Geographic area served: Bleckley, Dodge, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Washington, Wheeler, and Wilcox Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.
Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Book Center, Augusta-Richmond County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

425 Ninth Street
 Augusta, GA 30901
 Tel: (706) 821-2625
 (706) 724-5403 (Fax)
www.scescape.net/~ecgrl/lbph.htm
 Gary Swint, Librarian,
swintg@mail.richmond.public.lib.ga.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Jefferson, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Taliaferro, Warren, and Wilkes Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-7:00 PM, Fri.-Sat. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, audiocassettes, and descriptive videos for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Three Rivers Regional Library, Brunswick-Glynn County Regional Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

606 O Street
 Brunswick, GA 31520-5324
 Tel: (912) 267-1212
 (912) 267-9597 (Fax)
 Betty D. Ransom, Librarian, ransomb@gcpl.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Glynn County.

Geographic area served: Appling, Bacon, Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Glynn, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Ware, and Wayne Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: ADA compliant.
Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

VA Medical Center
 1 Freedom Way
 Augusta, GA 30904-6285
 Tel: (706) 733-0188
 (706) 481-6703 (Fax)
 Paul Whitten, Chief, Blind Rehabilitation Center
 James F. Trusley III, Director, Augusta VA Medical Center

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1996.

Geographic area served: Alabama, Northern Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, New York, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and West Virginia.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists in making an emotional and behavioral adjustment to blindness through individual counseling sessions and group therapy meetings.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers a variety of skill courses designed to help blinded veterans achieve a realistic level of independence, including orientation and mobility, communication skills, activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social/recreational activities.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Alabama.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: West Palm Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Florida.

Valdosta Talking Book Center, South Georgia Regional Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

300 Woodrow Wilson Drive

Valdosta, GA 31602-2592

Tel: (800) 246-6515

(229) 333-7658

(229) 333-0774 (Fax)

Diane Jernigan, Librarian, djernigan@sgrl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier, Lowndes, Tift, and Turner Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 AM-6:00 PM, Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Established: 1994.

County/District where located: Richmond.

Geographic area served: 16 counties in northeastern Georgia and 13 counties in South Carolina.

Funded by: Private donations, public funds.

Clients served annually: 800.

Staff: 30.

Fee structure: Funded primarily by public and private grants so most services are free. Some services are provided on a fee basis.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers training in braille in a small group setting.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print).

Computer Training: Offers information and training on a wide array of assistive technology—Basic Computer Literacy, Windows Environment, or specialty programs such as JAWS or Dragon Dictate.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists public and private buildings to comply with accessibility requirements.

Information and Referral: Offers information on a wide variety of topics such as disability sensitivity/awareness, ADA and other disability rights, and assistive technology. Maintains a Resource Room with books, videos, audiocassettes, and a computer with Internet access for consumers to use.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides independent living related services to people of all ages with all types of disabilities. Classes offered in group setting or on an individual basis, taught by peers.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Aiken: Hitchcock Office Park, 33B Varden Drive, Aiken, SC 29803

Gloversville: Highway 421, Gloversville, SC 29828

Warrenton: 928 East Warrenton Highway, Warrenton, GA 30828

Waynesboro: 808 Davis Road, Waynesboro, GA 30830

Walton Options for Independent Living

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

948 Walton Way

Augusta, GA 30903

Tel: (877) 821-8400

(706) 724-6262 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(706) 724-6262 (Fax)

www.waltonoptions.org

Tiffany Johnston, Executive Director,
tjohnston@waltonoptions.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower persons of all ages with all types of disabilities to reach their highest level of independence, including community inclusion and employment.

Guam

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Guam Department of Integrated Services for
Individuals with Disabilities/Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation
(671) 642-0020

Guam Department of Public Health and Social
Services: Division of Senior Citizens
(671) 735-7382

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Guam Department of Education: Division of
Special Education
(671) 475-0549

Educational Services

Guam Department of Education: Division of
Special Education
(671) 475-0549

Rehabilitation Services

Guam Department of Integrated Services for
Individuals with Disabilities/Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation
(671) 642-0020

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Guam Public Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library
(NLS)

State Technology Programs

Guam System for Assistive Technology

Guam Department of Education: Division of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency
- State educational services

P.O. Box DE
Hagatna, GU 96932
Tel: (671) 475-0549
(671) 475-0562 (TDD/TTY)
(671) 475-0562 (Fax)
www.doe.edu.gu/
E-mail: doesped1@ite.net

Vincent Leon Guerrero, Associate Superintendent,
Special Education Division, doesped1@ite.net
Cathy Tydingco, Part C Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide special classes for totally blind, partially sighted, deaf and hard of hearing students at the Guam School for the Deaf and the Blind. Has academic and pre-vocational programs for partially sighted students.

Geographic area served: Guam.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Guam's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Oversees academic programs for visually impaired, partially sighted students in Guam public schools.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational programs.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training for blind and partially sighted students in the Guam School for the Deaf and the Blind.

Guam Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

1313 Central Avenue
 Tiyan, GU 96913
 Tel: (671) 642-0020
 (671) 642-0025 (TDD/TTY)
 (671) 477-0033 (Fax)
 E-mail: dvrzoe@ite.net

Rosanne Ada, Director, Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities,
 disid@ite.net

Zosef Branch, Project Director, Older Blind Independent Programs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable all individuals with various disabilities to achieve unmet needs, community integration, full inclusion, and case management.

Geographic area served: Guam.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Information and Referral to older persons.

Counseling: Counsels individuals with disabilities.

Information and Referral: Handles case management in conjunction with other resources.

Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services: Division of Senior Citizens

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State unit on aging

651 Route 10, Suite 16, Lower Level Legacy Square
 Mangilao, GU 96913

Tel: (671) 735-7382
 (671) 735-7416 (Fax)

www.dphss.govguam.net/

E-mail: chiefdsc@dphss.govguam.net

PeterJohn D. Camacho, MPH, Director, (671) 735-7102,
 (671) 734-5910 (Fax), director@dphss.govguam.net

Arthur U. San Agustin, MHR, Senior Citizens Administrator, chiefdsc@dphss.govguam.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To act as principal advocate for senior citizens throughout Guam. To provide community support services and adult protective services for senior citizens

and to contract out for all services/programs funded locally under Title III to private or nonprofit organizations.

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: Guam.

Ages served: 60 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 11. 1 Senior Citizens Administrator, 1 Program Coordinator IV, 2 Program Coordinator III, 1 Program Coordinator II, 1 Social Service Supervisor I, 1 Social Worker III, Administrative Officer, 1 Word Processing Secretary II, 2 Senior Citizens Employment, Program Workers (PT).

Fee structure: None.

Guam Public Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

254 Martyr Street
 Agana, GU 96910-5141

Tel: (671) 475-4753
 (671) 477-9777 (Fax)

Christine K. Scott-Smith, Director,
 csctsmth@kuentos.guam.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free and open access to information and promote literacy, encourage lifelong learning and maintain cultural materials.

Established: 1961.

Geographic area served: Guam.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-6:00 PM,
 Tues./Thurs. 9:30-8:00 PM, Sat. 10:00-4:00 PM, Sun.
 12:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Funded by: Public funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Guam System for Assistive Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State technology program

University of Guam

Guam CEDDERS

UOG Station

303 University Drive

Hse #19 Dean Circle, GU 96923

Tel: (671) 735-2490

(671) 735-2491 (TDD/TTY)

(671) 734-8378 (Fax)
www.uog.edu/cedders/gsat.htm
E-mail: gsat@ite.net
June Quitigua, Project Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1994.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information about assistive technology and referral to resources.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southwest Region Office (HKNC)

See California.

Hawaii

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Hawaii Department of Health: Executive
Office on Aging
(808) 586-0100

Hawaii Department of Human Services:
Ho'opono Services for the Blind, Vocational
Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind
Division
(808) 586-5269

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Early Intervention Section (0-3), Hawaii
Department of Health
(800) 235-5477

Educational Services

Hawaii Department of Education: Office of
Curriculum, Instruction, and Student
Support, Special Education Services Branch
(808) 733-4400

Instructional Materials Center

Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind
(808) 733-4999

Rehabilitation Services

Hawaii Department of Human Services:
Ho'opono Services for the Blind, Vocational
Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind
Division
(808) 586-5269

School for the Blind

Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind
(808) 733-4999

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Dog Guide Schools

Eye of the Pacific Guide Dogs and Mobility Services

Libraries

Hawaii State Library: Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Hawaii Optometric Association

Schools for the Blind

Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind

State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii

Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii (ATRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

414 Kuwili Street, Suite 104
 Honolulu, HI 96817
 Tel: (800) 645-3007 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state)
 (808) 532-7110 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (808) 532-7120 (Fax)
www.atrc.org
 E-mail: atrc@atrc.org
 Barbara Fischolowitz-Leong, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1991.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Offers a wide variety of assistive technology (AT) equipment loaned free of charge through centers across the state. Offers customized workshops in AT to meet the specific training needs of university students, professionals, persons with disabilities and their families in Hawaii.

Information and Referral: Provides information on assistive technology products, vendors, services, or other resources.

Early Intervention Section (0-3), Hawaii Department of Health

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Pan American Building
 1600 Kapiolani Boulevard
 Suite 1401
 Honolulu, HI 96814
 Tel: (800) 235-5477 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (808) 973-9633 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (808) 973-9655 (Fax)
www.hawaii.gov/health/family-child-health/eis/index.html
 E-mail: karen.ho@fhds.health.state.hi.us
 Linda M. Rosen, Deputy Director
 Sue Brown, Part C Coordinator, Zero to 3 Services
 Section, suebrown@fhds.health.state.hi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide developmental services for children from birth to three years of age with special needs.

Geographic area served: Hawaii.

Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or conditions that could lead to delays.

Ages served: 0 to 3.
Accessibility: Statewide.
Funded by: State funds.
Fee structure: None.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Hawaii's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Eye of the Pacific Guide Dogs and Mobility Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

747 Amana Street, #407
 Honolulu, HI 96814
 Tel: (808) 941-1088
 (808) 944-9368 (Fax)
www.eyeofthepacific.org/
 E-mail: Info@EyeOfThePacific.Org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To supply dog guides and electronic mobility devices to blind individuals.

Established: 1955.

Geographic area served: Hawaii, Guam, and Alaska.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in the use of electronic aids.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind (HCDB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

■ School for the blind

3440 Leahi Avenue
 Honolulu, HI 96815
 Tel: (808) 733-4999 (7:30 AM-4:30 PM. Hawaii time)
 (808) 733-4824 (Fax)
www.hcdb.k12.hi.us/

Sydney Freitas, Interim Administrator,
sydney@hcdb.k12.hi.us
Susan Hokama, Resource Teacher for the Visually
Impaired, HCDB, susan@hcdb.k12.hi.us
Kristin Oien, Resource Teacher, Visually
Impaired/Orientation and Mobility,
kristin@hcdb.k12.hi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To evaluate and serve deaf, hard-of-hearing, blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind students who come from the various communities throughout the state. To provide an array of services designed to assist each student in the target populations to maximize his or her potential with high expectations of success.

Established: 1914.

County/District where located: Honolulu City and County, Island of Oahu.

Geographic area served: Hawaii.

Eligibility requirements: Hawaii residents based on diagnostic referral of local school.

Ages served: 3 to 20.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM Hawaii time.

Accessibility: Diagnostic Center accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Hawaii's students who are blind or visually impaired participate in regular education settings and are served in those settings by specialists in visual impairment. Students/families may be housed at the Center during evaluations.

Staff: 2 diagnostic/technical assistance resource teachers at HCDB to serve statewide.

Fee structure: No fee for eligible students (residents of the state of Hawaii, with appropriate referrals).

Additional information: Contact local school for program information and additional services, or Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assessment provided by diagnostic team (psychologist, social worker, family educator, teacher for visually impaired students, orientation and mobility instructor, teacher for hearing impaired students, speech pathologist, audiologist).

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Coordinates statewide ordering of large-print braille, and special material for visually impaired students.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to local schools.

Counseling: Offers counseling services.

Education Services: Offers technical assistance for braille, orientation and mobility, and other special skills blind children need to function in public schools. Provides educational materials for inclusion programs.

Hawaii Department of Education: Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Support, Special Education Services Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

637 18th Avenue
Building C, Room 201
Honolulu, HI 96816
Tel: (808) 733-4400
(808) 733-4841 (Fax)
www.doe.k12.hi.us/specialeducation
Paul Ban, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To collaboratively provide clear direction, technical assistance, and support with districts and schools to facilitate student success.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for students with disabilities, ages 3 to 21.

Hawaii Department of Health: Executive Office on Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

One Capitol District
250 South Hotel Street
Room 406
Honolulu, HI 96813-2831
Tel: (808) 586-0100
(808) 586-0185 (Fax)
www.hawaii.gov/health/ea
E-mail: eoa@health.state.hi.us
Marilyn A. Seely, Director,
mrseely@mail.health.state.hi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Hawaii.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Hawaii Department of Human Services: Ho'opono Services for the Blind, Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

1901 Bachelot Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

Tel: (808) 586-5269

(808) 586-5288 (Fax)

www.rrhi.com/hooponoblindservices

David Eveland, Administrator, (808) 586-5311,
develand@dhs.hawaii.gov

Jon L. Koki, Community Services Coordinator,
jkoki@dhs.hawaii.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the standard of living and quality of life of persons with blindness or visual impairments residing in the State of Hawaii.

Established: 1935.

Geographic area served: Hawaii.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that interferes with ability to function personally, socially, vocationally.

Hours of operation: 7:45 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: Optometrist, social worker, ophthalmologist. Uses volunteers in addition to staff.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille, handwriting, and typing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation, arranges psychological testing and evaluation, individual and couple counseling, placement in training, referral to community services.

Employment: Provides prevocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, referrals for occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, sheltered workshops, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending stand training.

Information and Referral: Refers for other counseling/social work services, health services, and recreational services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in occupational therapy, mobility skills.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, hobby groups, special programs for elderly, bowling, swimming. Refers for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, electronic mobility aids, home management, occupational therapy, sensory training, orientation to adaptive equipment. Provides independent living services and special programs for the elderly.

LOCAL OFFICES

Captain Cook: Kuna Field Office, P.O. Box 459, Captain Cook, HI 96704

Hilo: 75 Aupuni, Hilo, HI 96720

Lihue: 3060 Eiwa Street, Room 304, Lihue, HI 96766

Wailuku: 54 South High Street, Room 309, Wailuku, HI 96793

Hawaii Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

220 S. King Street, #801

Suite C

Honolulu, HI 96813-4526

Tel: (808) 547-5678

(808) 537-1509 (Fax)

E-mail: hoaopt@earthlink.net

Hawaii State Library: Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

402 Kapahulu Avenue

Honolulu, HI 96815

Tel: (800) 559-4096

(808) 733-8444 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(808) 733-8444 (TDD/TTY)

(808) 733-8449 (Fax)

www.librarieshawaii.org/locations/oahu/lbph.html

E-mail: olbcirc@librarieshawaii.org

Fusako Miyashiro, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free, modern library service for people, specifically blind and physically handicapped persons, who need library material in special formats.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Island of Oahu.

Geographic area served: State of Hawaii, Guam, and U.S. Pacific Islands.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print, certified by competent authority.

Hours of operation: Mon., Wed., Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.
Tues. 9:00 AM-6 PM.

Staff: 11. 1 Director, 1 Librarian, 6 Library Technicians, 2 Library Assistants, 1 Janitor.

Additional information: Regional library of the National Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped. Branch of the Hawaii State Public Library System.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, braille books, and cassette book machines for blind and

physically handicapped persons. Provides radio reading service and transcribing services.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southwest Region Office (HKNC)

See California.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center

See California.

Idaho

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

(800) 542-8688

Idaho Commission on Aging

(208) 334-3833

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare,
Children's Developmental Services, Infant
Toddler Program

(208) 334-5514

Educational Services

Idaho State Department of Education

(800) 432-4601

Instructional Materials Center

Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind

(208) 934-4457

Rehabilitation Services

Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

(800) 542-8688

School for the Blind

Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind

(208) 934-4457

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Idaho State Talking Book Library (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Idaho Optometric Association

Radio Reading Stations

Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Idaho Radio Reading Service

Schools for the Blind

Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind

State Technology Programs

Idaho Assistive Technology Project

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Northwest Region Office (HKNC)

See Washington.

Idaho Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

129 West Third Street

Moscow, ID 83844-4401

Tel: (800) 432-8324 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(208) 885-3559 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(208) 885-3628 (Fax)

www.educ.uidaho.edu/idatech

Ron Seiler, Project Director, rseiler@uidaho.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Refers individuals to obtain advocacy and legal services related to assistive technology.

Assessment: Provides assessment of assistive technology.

Assistive Products: Operates a statewide used equipment recycling program through which individuals can find listings of devices available for sale.

Financial Assistance: Facilitates a low-interest loan program designed to help Idahoans finance assistive technology purchases.

Information and Referral: Maintains a statewide information and referral program related to assistive technology.

Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- Radio reading station
- State rehabilitation services

341 West Washington Street

Boise, ID 83720-0012

Tel: (800) 542-8688

(208) 334-3220

(208) 334-2963 (Fax)

www.icbvi.state.id.us/

Angela Roan, Administrator, aroan@icbvi.state.id.us

Dana Ard, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor,
dard@icbvi.state.id.us

Mike Blackaller, Rehabilitation Services Chief,
mblackal@icbvi.state.id.us

Jackie Bryan, Independent Living Coordinator,
jbryan@icbvi.state.id.us

Heidi Gainen-Larsen, Vocational Rehabilitation,
hlarsen@icbvi.state.id.us

Brett Winchester, Volunteer and Reading Services
Manager, Idaho Radio Reading Services,
bwinches@icbvi.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for functionally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Ada County.

Geographic area served: Idaho.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, functionally blind, or in immediate danger of legal blindness.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Orientation and adjustment center for adults.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Maintains Statewide Assessment and Training Center.

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision aids, magnifiers and aids for daily living. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, family/parent, couple counseling.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, vocational placement, vending stand training, on-the-job training.

Information and Referral: Refers for health and recreational services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service, short-term or summer training open for enrollment to other agencies in subjects requested by agencies.

Reading Services: Statewide Newslines as well as local papers by volunteers. Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, and book readings. Publications include The Idaho Statesman and other local newspapers.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, typing, home management, cane travel skills in client's home and community. Provides services to individuals 55 or older to help them remain independent in their homes, families, and communities.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Coeur d'Alene: 2005 Ironwood Parkway, Suite 222, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Idaho Falls: 689 Park Avenue, Idaho Falls, ID 83402-3513

Lewiston: 1118 F Street, Lewiston, ID 83501-1986, Erick Heintz, VR Program

Pocatello: 427 North Main, Suite K, Pocatello, ID 83204-3016, Norma Turnbeaugh, VR Program

Twin Falls: 1201 Falls Avenue East, Suite 32, Twin Falls, ID 83301-3465, Ed Easterling, VR Program

Idaho Commission on Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

3380 Americana Terrace, #120

Boise, ID 83706

Tel: (208) 334-3833

(208) 334-3033 (Fax)

www2.state.id.us/icoa/

Lois Bauer, Administrator, lbauer@icoa.state.id.us

Melinda Adams, State Older Worker Program

Coordinator, madams@icoa.state.id.us

Deedra Hunt, In Home Services, dhunt@icoa.state.id.us

Tina Rice, Transportation - Nutrition Programs,

trice@icoa.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist seniors and vulnerable adults in retaining their dignity and independence by providing the options and resources to remain in their own homes and communities for as long as they choose.

County/District where located: ADA.

Geographic area served: Idaho.

Ages served: 60 and above.

Staff: 16.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates for seniors.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy, Assessment, Counseling, Employment, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Transportation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides case management.

Counseling: Offers case management for citizens over 60 years of age.

Employment: Older Worker Programs helps low-income, unemployed seniors regain their economic independence and self-sufficiency by building basic skills and providing occupational training, as well as actual work experience, to enable them to compete successfully for available jobs.

In-Home Services: Offers nutrition and in-home services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging agencies.

Transportation: Offers transportation services for seniors.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Children's Developmental Services, Infant Toddler Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

450 West State Street

Boise, ID 83720-0036

Tel: (208) 334-5514

(208) 334-6664 (Fax)

www.idahochild.org

Mary G. Jones, Program Manager, Infant Toddler Program, jonesm@idhw.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide leadership, advocacy, and education while coordinating comprehensive service delivery for the maximum benefit of infants and toddlers and their families, and to support family-centered partnerships that guide early intervention and prevention activities in natural settings.

Established: 1991.

County/District where located: Statewide.

Geographic area served: State of Idaho.

Eligibility requirements: Evaluation that shows a significant developmental delay (30% below age norm or six months behind other children the same age) in any of the following five areas: self-help or adaptive skills, cognitive skills, communication skills, physical development, social or emotional development ; and a physical or medical condition (called an established condition) that usually results in a developmental delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Idaho's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Idaho Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

25095 Homedale Road

Wilder, ID 83676

Tel: (208) 378-7700

(208) 337-5614 (Fax)

www.eyed.org

Larry Benton, Executive Director,

LEBENTON@DirecPC.com

Idaho Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83702-0012

Tel: (208) 334-3220

(208) 334-2963 (Fax)

www.icbvi.state.id.us/brochure/radio.htm

Brett Winchester, Reading Services Manager,

bwinches@icbvi.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Ada County.

Geographic area served: Treasure Valley and southwest area of Idaho, plus a small portion of eastern Oregon and northern Nevada.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-2:00 AM, 7 days a week, repeats 4 times daily.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, and book readings. Publications include The Idaho Statesman and other local newspapers.

Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- School for the blind

1450 Main Street

Gooding, ID 83330

Tel: (208) 934-4457 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(208) 934-8352 (Fax)

www.isdb.state.id.us

Harvey W. Lyter, Interim Superintendent,
hlyter@isdb.state.id.us

Shirley C. Cobble, Library/Media Specialist
Janet Stout, Principal, jstout@isdb.state.id.us

Robin Swenson, Materials Center,
rswenson@isdb.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a safe, supportive environment where educational opportunities exist to gain knowledge, skills and values needed to perform to their potential.

County/District where located: Gooding County.

Geographic area served: Idaho.

Eligibility requirements: Visually and/or hearing impaired, deaf-blind, or multiply disabled persons.

Residential Facilities: Provides dormitory living situations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides books, equipment, teaching materials and services for blind and visually impaired students throughout Idaho.

Assessment: Offers evaluation and referral services.

Counseling: Offers perceptual development and parent counseling on consultant or referral basis. Trained counselors on site. Summer camp provides psychological programs.

Education Services: Provides instruction in all developmental areas, academic programs for children (preschool through high school), career-oriented vocational program for nonacademic students, home-bound preschool program, and itinerant

instruction for students attending public school programs. Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Idaho.

Information and Referral: Does outreach for referral in seven regions.

Library: Maintains Library/Media Center, part of the statewide library system. Resources extended to all Idaho citizens.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling for parents.

Preschool: Works with agencies and with parents at home, statewide. Offers preschool classroom program for children 3 years-kindergarten, regional statewide in-house programs for children age 0-3, program for children age 3-kindergarten, and consultation services to public schools.

Professional Training: Offers workshops for itinerant teachers and for regular education teachers in public schools and professional internships in special education or related fields. Offers Visually Impaired Paraprofessional Summer Training.

Recreation: Recreational specialist coordinates after-school activities. Extracurricular activities provided: soccer, basketball, swimming, volleyball, track, gym, group activities.

Idaho State Department of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State educational services

650 West State Street

Boise, ID 83702

Tel: (800) 432-4601

(208) 332-6800

(800) 377-3529 (TDD/TTY)

(208) 334-4664 (Fax)

www.sde.state.id.us

Jana Jones, Bureau Chief, jjones@sde.state.id.us

Larry E. Streeter, Dispute Resolution Coordinator,

Bureau of Special Education, lstreete@sde.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote public education by providing leadership and consultation to school districts, the public and partner agencies, to assist in programs and services leading to success for all learners, to meet the letter and spirit of relevant laws, rules, and regulations, and to promote teaching practices that lead to high academic achievement.

County/District where located: Ada County.

Geographic area served: Idaho.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act eligibility.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:30 PM, flex schedule.

Accessibility: Braille signage in elevators, wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Public funds, state funds.

Staff: No full-time administrator of programs on blindness.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Oversees specialized programs and the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (individualized education program process).

Parent Assistance: Offers consultation services and referrals to appropriate agencies.

Idaho State Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

325 West State Street

Boise, ID 83702

Tel: (800) 233-4931 (Toll-free in Idaho)

(208) 334-2117

(800) 377-1363 (TDD/TTY)

(208) 334-4016 (Fax)

www.lili.org/tbl/

E-mail: tblbooks@isl.state.id.us

Sue Walker, Librarian, swalker@isl.state.id.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Ada County.

Geographic area served: Idaho.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 3000.

Staff: 10.

Publications: Books on Tape Update (newsletter).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center (VAPSHCS-American Lake BRC)

See Washington.

Illinois

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services:

Bureau of Blind Services

(312) 633-3532

Illinois Department on Aging

(800) 252-8966

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Illinois Department of Human Services,

Bureau of Early Intervention

(800) 323-4769

Educational Services

Illinois State Board of Education: Department
of Special Education

(217) 782-4870

Instructional Materials Center

Illinois Instructional Materials Center

(312) 997-3699

Rehabilitation Services

Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services:

Bureau of Blind Services

(312) 633-3532

School for the Blind

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired

(217) 479-4400

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Center for Sight & Hearing

Horizons for the Blind

Johanna Bureau for the Blind and Physically

Handicapped

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Illinois Unit

TCRC Sight Center

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Disability

Resources and Educational Services Disability Offices

Educational Agencies

Hope School

NSSEO Vision Support Services

SASED/DuPage/West Cook Regional Special
Education

Southern Will County Cooperative for Special
Education

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired

Illinois State Board of Education: Early Childhood
Division

Information/Referral Centers

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Midwest Regional
Office

Guild for the Blind

Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness

Prevent Blindness America

Libraries

Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center (NLS)

Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service
(NLS)

Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center, Alliance Library
System (NLS)

Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center, Quincy Office,
Alliance Library System (NLS)
Southern Illinois Talking Book Center, Shawnee Library
System (NLS)
Voices of Vision Talking Book Center (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Center for Sight & Hearing
Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or
Visually Impaired
Deicke Center for Visual Rehabilitation
Eye Clinic, Children's Memorial Hospital
Guild for the Blind
Illinois Eye Institute: Low Vision Rehabilitation
Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, VICTORS Program
Loyola University Medical Center: Ophthalmology
Clinic
Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation:
Ophthalmology Department
TCRC Sight Center

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

American Blind Skiing Foundation

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Society of Contemporary Medicine, Surgery
and Ophthalmology
Illinois Association of Ophthalmology
Illinois Optometric Association

National Organizations

American Society of Contemporary Medicine, Surgery
and Ophthalmology
Easter Seals
Hadley School for the Blind
International Association of Lions Clubs (Lions Clubs
International)
Knights Templar Eye Foundation
Prevent Blindness America

Postsecondary Institutions

Illinois State University
Northern Illinois University
Southern Illinois University: Disability Support
Services

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Disability
Resources and Educational Services

Radio Reading Stations

Augustana Public Radio Information Service
Chicagoland Radio Information Service
Illinois Radio Reader
Minds Eye Information Service
Northern Illinois Radio Information Service/Northern
Public Radio
Radio Information Service
Southern Illinois Radio Information Service
Tri-States Audio Information Services
WCBU Radio Information Service
WUIS/WIPA Radio Information Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Center for Sight & Hearing
Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or
Visually Impaired
Easter Seals
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths
and Adults: North Central Region Office
Peoria Area Blind People's Center
TCRC Sight Center
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind
Rehabilitation Center

Residential Facilities

Friedman Place: A Residence for Blind and Visually
Impaired Adults
Mary Bryant Home for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired
Philip J. Rock Center and School

Social Service Organizations

Blind Service Association
Guild for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Illinois Assistive Technology Project

American Blind Skiing Foundation

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Society of Contemporary Medicine, Surgery and Ophthalmology (ASCMSO)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Augustana Public Radio Information Service (APRIS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

c/o WVIK
Augustana College
639 38th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201
Tel: (800) 794-9845

(309) 794-7500
 (309) 794-1236 (Fax)
www.wvik.org/apris.htm
 E-mail: wwik_apris@augustana.edu
 Diane Stokeld, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enrich the lives of people who are blind and physically handicapped by putting them in touch with the community in which they live and giving them access to a broad range of information.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Rock Island County.

Geographic area served: 90 miles WVIK/80 miles APRIS.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 24 hours per day.

Staff: Staffed by over 200 volunteers.

Fee structure: APRIS is operated free-of-charge as a side-band radio broadcast of WVIK 90.3 FM at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL.

Publications: APRIS Newslite (volunteer schedule).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Reading Services: Provides free readings of local and regional newspapers for the visually and physically impaired. Every week, some 200 local volunteers read from the Quad City Times, The Dispatch, Rock Island Argus, Clinton Herald, Des Moines Register, Chicago Tribune newspapers. In addition, the InTouch network from New York City provides national-distribution newspapers and magazines during the afternoon and overnight.

Blind Service Association (BSA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

22 West Monroe
 11th Floor
 Chicago, IL 60603-2501
 Tel: (312) 236-0808
 (312) 236-8679 (Fax)
 E-mail: blindsrv@aol.com

Debbie Grossman, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the independence and self-sufficiency of blind and partially sighted residents of the metropolitan Chicago area.

Established: 1924.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Chicago and five surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness or reading disability.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-8:00 PM, Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Program brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Support Groups to older persons.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Education Services: Offers summer program for teenagers to provide daily living skills training and outings.

Employment: Computer consortium helps members with support and job contacts.

Health/Medical: Refers for diagnosis and evaluation of eye health.

Information and Referral: Provides information and assistance for seniors.

Reading Services: Offers reading by volunteers in outlying libraries.

Support Groups: Provides self-help and support groups for young adults, mid-lifers and seniors.

Center for Sight & Hearing

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

8038 MacIntosh Lane
 Rockford, IL 61107
 Tel: (800) 545-0080 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (815) 332-6800
 (815) 332-6820 (TDD/TTY)
 (815) 332-6810 (Fax)
www.rockfordcenter.org
 E-mail: info@rockfordcenter.org
 Beth Sweeney, Professional Services Coordinator,
bsweeney@rockfordcenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people with a vision and/or hearing loss to be independent.

Established: 1962.

County/District where located: Winnebago County.

Geographic area served: Northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: 18 years and older with documentation of a vision and/or hearing loss.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM and Thurs. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM low vision services.

Accessibility: Wheelchair and TTY accessible, braille signage. Transportation available from Rockford and close outlying areas, per contract. Limited areas not covered by Rockford Paratransit.

Staff: 11 full-time, 4 part-time.

Publications: Sights & Sounds Newsletter (bi-monthly), New Horizons (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assist individuals in identifying and stating needs and goals and developing and implementing individual plans.

Assistive Products: Products for sale on site include talking watches/clocks, cooking utensils, reading and writing tools, personal and money management products and large-button phones.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Reading material, Center brochures and information, greeting cards, and others.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers low vision screening, in-service training, sighted guide training.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides advice, assistance, consultation, training to individuals, professionals, employers, and family members.

Counseling: Offers support group, rehabilitation and career counseling.

Employment: Offers career and skill counseling.

Information and Referral: Provides community information and resources to assist individuals with vision loss.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescription supply of low vision devices, and provision of low vision services for seniors.

Professional Training: Offers workshops, professional presentations, and in-service training to the public and personnel who work with people with vision and/or hearing loss.

Recreation: Holds regularly scheduled social/recreational activities for adults with a vision and/or hearing loss.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, home management, travel, money management, and communication skills at the Center or individual's homes.

Support Groups: Offers support groups for individuals who experience a vision loss.

Chicagoland Radio Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

77 East Randolph/Pedestrian Walkway
Chicago, IL 60601

Tel: (312) 541-8400

(312) 541-8312 (Fax)

www.crisradio.com/index_.htm

E-mail: crisradio60601@yahoo.com

Bonnie Miller, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide verbatim readings of local newspapers and local and national magazines to the blind and print impaired of ChicagoLand.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Cook County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Provides radio reading service with verbatim reading of local newspapers, local and national magazines. Publications include Chicago Tribune, Sun Times, Defender, Southtown, Daily Herald, and 60 others.

Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

1850 West Roosevelt Road

Chicago, IL 60608

Tel: (312) 666-1331

(312) 666-8874 (TDD/TTY)

(312) 243-8539 (Fax)

www.thechicagolighthouse.org/

James Kesteloot, President/Executive Director,

james.kesteloot@chicagolighthouse.org

Terrence J. Longo, Assistant Executive Director,

Administration,

terrence.longo@chicagolighthouse.org

John Rimkus, Director of Low Vision Rehabilitation Services, Clinical Services

Dawn Rose, Director of Human Resources,

Administration, dawn.rose@chicagolighthouse.org

Mary Zabelski, Sr., Director of Educational Services,

mary.zabelski@chicagolighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the highest quality educational, clinical, vocational and rehabilitation services for children, youth and adults who are blind or visually impaired, including deaf-blind and multi-disabled. The Chicago Lighthouse respects personal dignity and partners with individuals to enhance independent living and self-sufficiency.

Established: 1906.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: State of Illinois, Chicago Metro area.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:45 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Referrals.

Clients served annually: 15,000.

Staff: 175. Positions represent a wide range of qualifications serving all aspects of agency programs and operations, including vision rehabilitation, employment services, assistive technology, adult education, development, and public relations. The staff—of which nearly 40% are qualified individuals with visual impairments and other disabilities—provides services to children, youth, and adults who are visually impaired, blind, deaf-blind, and blind with multiple disabilities.

Fee structure: Services free. Low Vision Clinic sliding scale.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

Additional information: The Chicago Lighthouse is approved as a nonpublic education facility for disabled children by State of Illinois.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility to older persons.

Assessment: Offers pre-vocational and vocational evaluation.

Assistive Products: Distributes assistive devices including large-print, braille, and talking products for employment and personal use. Products for sale on site and online.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers parent counseling, psychological consultation, and limited psychological testing and evaluation. Offers individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling and placement in training. Offers job placement counseling. Refers for other counseling/social work services. Provides consultation to other agencies.

Early Intervention: Offers home-based education for children birth to 3, parent counseling, psychological consultation, referrals to other agencies.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational and vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, rehabilitation workshop, vocational placement, supported employment, follow-up service. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Provides low vision examinations. Offers occupational, physical, speech therapy and medical consultation. Evaluates eye health, treats eye conditions, prescribes spectacles or devices. Refers for other health services.

Information and Referral: Information and referral specialists available to answer questions concerning devices, organizations and services for persons who are blind or visually impaired. Assists people who are blind or visually impaired to obtain government and community services. Provides consultative services to businesses.

Low Vision: Provides low vision services to help patients maximize use of their remaining vision and adjust to psychological and social issues of living with low vision.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Parent groups meet twice-monthly for support, information sharing and mentoring.

Preschool: Offers preschool program for birth to 3 and 3 to 21 year olds in multi-disabled classroom.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in low vision, residency in ophthalmology, rehabilitation counseling, special education, social work, rehabilitation teaching, orientation and mobility. Offers in-service training programs and short-term or summer training. Programs open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Refers for recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Accepts individuals with multiple disabilities including deaf-blind, developmental disabilities, and others.

Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

400 South State Street

Fifth Floor, Room 5N7

Chicago, IL 60605

Tel: (800) 757-4654

(312) 747-4001

(312) 747-1609 (Fax)

www.chipublib.org/003cpl/irlbph/cpltb.html

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library services to the print-handicapped residents of Chicago.

Geographic area served: Chicago.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon./Weds./Sat. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Tues./Thurs. 11:00 AM-7:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

Publications: TBC Focus (newsletter).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Deicke Center for Visual Rehabilitation**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Low vision center/clinic**

219 East Cole Avenue

Wheaton, IL 60187

Tel: (630) 690-7115

(630) 690-2509 (TDD/TTY)

(630) 690-9037 (Fax)

www.deicke.org

E-mail: info@deicke.org

R. Tracy Williams, O.D., F.A.A.O., Executive Director,
Low Vision Rehabilitation Doctor

Constance Arends, M.S.Ed, R.T.C., Director of
Rehabilitation Teaching

John D. Coalter, O.D., Optometrist, Low Vision
Rehabilitation

Leah Gerlach, MS, C.R.C., Assistive Technology
Coordinator

Mary F. Jordan, O.D., Optometrist, Low Vision
Rehabilitation

Mae Michels, M.S.Ed, C.O.M.S., Rehabilitation
Teacher/Orientation & Mobility Specialist

Melissa Robertson, M.S. L.P.C., Rehabilitation
Counselor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide professional low vision services to persons of all ages whose vision cannot be improved medically, surgically, or with conventional lenses in order to maximize vision and/or teach coping skills for independent living.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: DuPage County.

Geographic area served: Illinois, parts of Indiana and Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Open to anyone struggling with a visual impairment.

Ages served: 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA Accessible.

Clients served annually: 1100+.

Staff: Optometrists, certified rehabilitation teachers, O & M Instructor, rehabilitation counselor, technology coordinator, technology instructor, support staff.

Fee structure: Program fee fully or partially subsidized by outside sources.

Publications: Bright Side (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides low vision, technology and job-site evaluation.

Assistive Products: Distributes optical devices, non-optical goods, lamps, clocks, sunglasses, CCTVs, computers and software. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers "Seeing is Believing" program, in which low vision services are taken to Illinois schools and devices are prescribed and dispensed.

Computer Training: Provides training in the use of computers, software and CCTVs. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, and family counseling. Monthly support group.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living and use of optical devices and assistive technology devices.

Support Groups: Has a monthly support group.

Easter Seals

See U.S. National Organizations.

Eye Clinic, Children's Memorial Hospital**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Low vision center/clinic**

2300 Children's Plaza

Chicago, IL 60614

Tel: (773) 880-4346

Marilyn C. Mets, Head, Division of Ophthalmology

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Chicago metropolitan area.

Hours of operation: By appointment only.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Midwest Regional Office (FFB)**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Information/referral center**

1590 North Milwaukee Avenue

Suite 302

Libertyville, IL 60048

Tel: (847) 680-0100

(847) 680-1050 (Fax)

www.fightblindness.org

E-mail: info@blindness.org

Sue Abderholden, Executive Director,
sabderholden@blindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fund the research that will discover the causes, treatments, preventive methods, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

Geographic area served: Midwest.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: In Focus and In Sight (newsletters).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

Friedman Place: A Residence for Blind and Visually Impaired Adults

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Residential facility

5527 North Maplewood

Chicago, IL 60625

Tel: (773) 989-9800

(773) 989-4889 (Fax)

www.friedmanplace.org

Ann Farnam Lagory, Executive Director,
ann@friedmanplace.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide housing and supportive services to people who are blind or visually impaired so that their lives can be healthy, dignified and stimulating.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Chicago and northern Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or legally blind.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Residential Facilities: Room and board for blind and visually handicapped 15 years of age and up. Must be ambulatory and continent.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a staff of licensed nurses who dispense medicine and monitor chronic health conditions and certified nurse assistants who are on duty 24 hours a day.

Housing Services: Offers housing for people with vision problems in studio or one-bedroom apartments with full bathrooms and kitchenettes.

Library: Maintains a library with large print, braille and audio books.

Low Vision: Maintains a low-vision clinic on the premises run by the Illinois Eye Institute.

Recreation: Provides recreational and educational activities to adults with vision problems throughout Metropolitan Chicago. Facilities include weaving workshop, computer center, and exercise room.

Rehabilitation: Provides referrals for physical, occupational and speech therapy.

Guild for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Social service organization

180 North Michigan Avenue

Suite 1700

Chicago, IL 60601-7463

Tel: (312) 236-8569

(312) 236-8128 (Fax)

www.guildfortheblind.org/

E-mail: guild@guildfortheblind.org

David J. Tabak, Executive Director,

david@guildfortheblind.org

Lauri Dishman, Manager of Career Services

David Flament, Manager of Computer Training,

davidf@guildfortheblind.org

Kerry Obrist, Director of Services

Pamela Provost, Manager of Information and Referral Services, pamela@guildfortheblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve individuals who are blind or visually impaired, including those with new vision loss; to strive to promote positive attitudes about visual impairment and to assist its members in achieving dignity and independence at home, in the workplace and in the community.

Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Cook.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Budget: \$785,000.

Clients served annually: 5000.

Staff: 8.

Fee structure: Minimal fees for some services.

Publications: Guild Briefs (monthly consumer newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Computer Training, Employment, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes magnifiers, low vision aids, large print items, canes, talking products. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Offers computer training for seniors. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Employment: Employment Connection provides adults with the skills they need to independently pursue their career goals.

Information and Referral: Answers questions about blindness and the services and resources available for people who are blind. Publishes a monthly newsletter with articles pertinent to people who are blind or visually impaired.

Low Vision: Provides low vision products for seniors.

Rehabilitation: Runs New Visions, a rehabilitation program for adults with new vision loss. This four-part workshop provides the tools, training, and resources adults need to remain independent.

Hadley School for the Blind

See U.S. National Organizations.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: North Central Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

485 Avenue of the Cities
Suite 5
East Moline, IL 61244-4040
Tel: (309) 755-0018 (TDD/TTY)
(309) 755-0025 (Fax)
www.hknc.org

Laura J. Thomas, Regional Representative,
hknc5ljt@aol.com, (309) 755-0021 (TDD/TTY)
Tara K. Cook, Administrative Assistant,
hknc5tara@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable each person who is deaf-blind to live and work in his or her community of choice.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Rock Island County.

Geographic area served: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Deaf and legally blind.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Total accessibility. Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Hope School

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

50 Hazel Lane
Springfield, IL 62705-5810
Tel: (217) 585-5437
(217) 529-5766 (TDD/TTY)
(217) 786-3356 (Fax)
www.thehopeschool.org
Shawn E. Jeffers, Executive Director,
sjeffers@thehopeschool.org
Mary C. Loken, Acting Principal
Shayne Squires, Community Relations Coordinator,
(217) 585-5189, (217) 529-8234 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To give children and youth with disabilities the best learning and living opportunities, enabling them to discover their fullest potential.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Sangamon County.

Eligibility requirements: Children and youths with multiple disabilities.

Ages served: 5 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours, 7 days.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory beds for children with multiple disabilities.

Additional information: Licensed by the Illinois Department of Family Services and accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools as a Special Function School.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, individual, family counseling, placement in school.

Education Services: Offers non-graded programs.

Employment: Contracts for sheltered workshops.

Health/Fitness: Offers therapeutic recreation activities.

Health/Medical: Provides general medical services. Contracts for other medical, dental and vision health services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/supervised fieldwork placement in special education and regular in-service/short-term training programs.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts and hobby groups.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management skills, braille, gesticulation, handwriting, and listening skills.

Horizons for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

Two North Williams Street

Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Tel: (800) 318-2000

(815) 444-8800 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(815) 888-4430 (Fax)

www.horizons-blind.org

E-mail: mail@horizons-blind.org

Camille Caffarelli, Director, camille@horizons-blind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for people who are blind or visually impaired by increasing accessibility to culture, education, recreation, employment, and consumer information.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: McHenry County.

Geographic area served: International.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA guidelines. Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: Seeing It Our Way (magazine).

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides materials in large print, braille and cassette suitable for seniors.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Accessibility to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Types of content: Recreational, menus, employment-related documents for organizations and corporations, billing statements for credit cards, utilities.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers technical assistance to agencies and other providers to make their facilities more accessible.

Recreation: Provides recreational reading materials in alternate formats. Arranges recreational activities for visually impaired persons in community.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Homosassa: P.O. Box 547, Homosassa, FL 34446, mail@horizons-blind.org

Illinois Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State technology program**

One W. Old State Capital Plaza

Suite 100

Springfield, IL 62701

Tel: (217) 522-7985

(217) 522-9966 (TDD/TTY)

(217) 522-8067 (Fax)

www.iltech.org

E-mail: iatp@iltech.org

Wilhelmina Gunther, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To break down barriers that prevent people with disabilities from accessing the assistive technology that lets them to learn, work, play and live in the community.

Established: 1989.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Works to improve the system to better meet the needs of people with disabilities.

Assistive Products: Maintains a demonstration center that showcases a wide variety of assistive technology devices.

Financial Assistance: Provides loans to Illinois residents with disabilities and/or their families on behalf of the person with a disability to purchase assistive technology devices, services, and home modifications. Works with individuals to identify possible funding sources for obtaining assistive technology.

Information and Referral: Provides information about technology for Illinoisans with disabilities.

Illinois Association of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

Metro Square One

Suite 120

10 West Phillip Road

Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1730

Tel: (800) 838-3627

(847) 680-1666

(847) 680-1682 (Fax)
 www.midwesteyemd.org/illinois
 E-mail: eyeorg@aol.com
 Richard H. Paul, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1970.
Geographic area served: Illinois.

Illinois Department of Human Services, Bureau of Early Intervention

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

222 South College, 2nd floor
 Springfield, IL 62704
 Tel: (800) 323-4769 (Help Me Grow Hotline)
 (217) 782-1981
 (217) 558-6482 (TDD/TTY)
 (217) 524-6248 (Fax)
 www.dhs.state.il.us/ei/
 E-mail: dhsei06@dhs.state.il.us
 Janet Gully, Bureau Chief

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Illinois.
Eligibility requirements: Children ages 0-36 months with diagnosed disabilities, developmental delays, or substantial risk of significant delays.
Ages served: 0 to 3.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Illinois's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Chicago: 1112 S. Wabash, 4th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605

Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services: Bureau of Blind Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program ■ State rehabilitation services

1151 South Wood Street
 Chicago, IL 60612
 Tel: (312) 633-3532 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (312) 633-4088 (TDD/TTY)
 (312) 633-3805 (Fax)
 www.dhs.state.il.us/ors/bbs/
 Carol L. Adams, Secretary, Department of Human Services, (217) 557-1601, (217) 557-1647 (Fax)
 Bettye Odem-Davis, Bureau Chief
 Stan Nelson, Assistant Bureau Chief, Project Director, Independent Living Program

Jan Sherburne, Senior Public Service Administrator and Assistant Bureau Chief, Bureau of Blind Services, dhs33002@dhs.state.il.us
 Verle Wessel, Support Service Staff, DHSRC71@dhs.state.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Cook County.
Geographic area served: Illinois.
Eligibility requirements: Individuals below age 60 who have a severe visual impairment and whose disability places them in danger of long-term institutionalization and for whom the cost of home services would be reasonably related to the cost of institutional care (need not have a vocational goal).
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Fully accessible, all disabilities. Transportation available to and from facility.
Residential Facilities: Residential training center for older youth and adults.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.
Assessment: Determines current needs and skill levels of clients.
Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.
Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers technical assistance to other agencies and professionals who work with blind or visually impaired persons.
Counseling: Offers counseling, referrals, support to visually impaired individuals and family members.
Employment: Offers career and skill counseling, prevocational evaluation, career preparation training, vocational placement. Has programs available for individuals with severe visual impairments who are seeking to regain, retain or gain employment in the competitive labor market.
Information and Referral: Provides general information about blindness and visual impairment, and referrals to sources of other information.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.
Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility instruction in a community-based or residential setting.
Parent Assistance: Consults with parents of blind/visually impaired individuals and provides referrals to appropriate agencies.
Professional Training: Offers workshops, in-service meetings.
Rehabilitation: Provides training in skills of daily living. Offers programs for individuals age 55 or older

needing training in self-care, household management and care, and adjusting/adapting to visual loss so they may continue to live independently within their own homes and communities. Provides other necessary services in whole or in part (depending upon similar benefits and other resources) by the department.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Champaign: 510 Devonshire, Champaign, IL 61820, Pat Kramer Brown, Supervisor

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Chicago: 100 West Randolph, Suite 8-100, Chicago, IL 60601, dhs4400@dhs.state.il.us

FIELD OFFICES

Aurora: 888 South Edgelawn, Suite 1771, Aurora, IL 60505, Mike Sommes, Rehabilitation Instructor

Belleville: 601 South High Street, Belleville, IL 62220

Carbondale: 309 East Jackson, Carbondale, IL 62902-2348

Chicago Heights: 1010 Dixie Highway, 4th Floor, Chicago Heights, IL 60411, Delores Schauk, Instructor

Chicago: 10 West 35th Street, 4th Floor, Chicago, IL 60616, Willie Williams, Rehabilitation Instructor

Chicago: 3490 West Grand Avenue, Chicago, IL 60651, Sharon Howerton, Rehabilitation Instructor

Chicago: 8840 South Stony Island, Chicago, IL 60617, Nellie Woods, Rehabilitation Instructor

Decatur: 1065 West Pershing Road, Decatur, IL 62526

Downers Grove: 2901 Finley Road, Suite 109, Downers Grove, IL 60515, Mike Sommes, Rehabilitation Instructor

Evergreen Park: 9730 South Western Avenue, Room 612, Evergreen Park, IL 60642, Velma Allen-Swift, Rehabilitation Coordinator

Granite City: 3675 Nameoki Road, Granite City, IL 62040, Susie Windsor, Rehabilitation Instructor

Jacksonville: 1429 South Main, Suite C, Jacksonville, IL 62650, Joyce Brewers, Rehabilitation Instructor

Mt. Vernon: 4 Doctors Park Road, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864, Bettye Odem-Davis, Bureau Chief

Peoria: 4808 North Sheridan Road, Peoria, IL 61614, Joyce Sutton, Rehabilitation Instructor

Rock Island: 4711 44th Street, Suite #3, Rock Island, IL 61201, Barb Zuwala, Rehabilitation Instructor

Rockford: 615 North Longwood, Rockford, IL 61107, Elisabeth Mann, Rehabilitation Instructor

Rolling Meadows: 5340 Keystone Court, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Springfield: 1124 North Walnut Street, Springfield, IL 62702

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Chicago: 1151 South Wood Street, Chicago, IL 60612, Mike Nooner, Superintendent

Illinois Department on Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

421 East Capitol Avenue, #100

Springfield, IL 62701-1789

Tel: (800) 252-8966 (Information & Referral In State)

(217) 785-3356

(217) 785-4477 (Fax)

www.state.il.us/aging/

E-mail: ilsenior@aging.state.il.us

Charles Johnson, Director,

charles.johnson@aging.state.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve and advocate for older Illinoisans and their caregivers by administering programs and promoting partnerships that encourage independence, dignity and quality of life.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Starting Points for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Choices for Care in Illinois, Video Resource Catalog.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Counseling: Establishes and assists support groups for grandparent caregivers.

Information and Referral: Informs family caregivers about the programs and services available to their relatives. Co-sponsors statewide radio and television program focusing on age- and health-related issues. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information or other local aging services. Has an after-hours Elder Abuse Hotline (800-279-0400).

Professional Training: Provides education and training to professionals.

Illinois Eye Institute: Low Vision Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

3241 South Michigan Avenue

Chicago, IL 60616

Tel: (877) 949-3937

(312) 949-7255

www.iei.ico.edu/patients/clin_low_vision_rehab.html

Tracy L. Matchinski, Chief of Service, Low Vision

Rehabilitation Service, tmatchin@eyecare.ico.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help patients attain the highest level of independent living possible given their visual limitations.

Established: 1872.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Wed. 8:30 AM-7:30; Thurs. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM; Fri. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM; Sat. 8:30 AM-1:00 PM. Urgent care available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Fee structure: Third-party guidelines.

Publications: Newsletters, educational material, marketing material.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers evaluation of partially sighted and visually disabled patients.

Assistive Products: Offers a variety of optical devices, accessory devices, and adaptive technologies.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides free vision screening services to local school children and at employee health fairs and community group functions throughout Chicagoland.

Counseling: Offers counseling and social services to help patients deal with the emotional trauma of vision loss and take advantage of applicable community resources.

Early Intervention: Coordinates with early intervention organization to provide functional vision evaluations on site for children, birth to 3.

Information and Referral: Maintains a 24-hour information and referral service.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Offers low vision screening services on site or through referral for seniors. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training, including individualized adaptive training for daily living tasks.

Parent Assistance: Offers parental assistance on site and by referral.

Professional Training: Offers continuing education for optometrists and other professionals.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living for seniors.

Illinois Instructional Materials Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

1850 West Roosevelt Road

Chicago, IL 60608

Tel: (312) 997-3699

(312) 997-1687 (Fax)

www.thechicagolighthouse.org

E-mail: iimc@chicagolighthouse.org

Barbara Perkis, Director, (312) 666-1331,

barbara.perkis@chicagolighthouse.org

Nina Shosan, Associate Director, (312) 997-3698,

nina.shosan@chicagolighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work with local school systems, public and private agencies to procure alternate educational materials such as braille and large print textbooks.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Cook.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Students who are blind or visually impaired engaged in pre-college level study.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: State funds.

Budget: \$1,121,000.

Clients served annually: 3,600.

Staff: 7.

Fee structure: No charge.

Additional information: IIMC is a statewide, state-funded resource center for students with visual disabilities enrolled in a formal educational program in Illinois' public and private schools.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Works with local school systems, textbook publishers, and other public and private agencies to procure and produce alternative format educational materials such as braille and large print textbooks for students with visual disabilities enrolled in a formal educational program in Illinois' public and private schools.

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Illinois.

Illinois Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

304 West Washington Street

Springfield, IL 62701

Tel: (800) 933-7289 (Illinois only)

(217) 525-8012

(217) 525-8018 (Fax)

www.ioaweb.org

E-mail: ioa@fgi.net

Michael G. Hortsman, Executive Director,

ioaed@ioaweb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the eye health and vision care of the public and the profession of optometry in Illinois.

Established: 1878.

County/District where located: Sangamon County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Journal and newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to eye doctors for low vision and other required services.

Illinois Radio Reader

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

59 East Armory

Champaign, IL 61820

Tel: (217) 333-6503

www.will.uiuc.edu/community/services.htm

Deane L. Geiken, Director, dgeiken@uiuc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Champaign County.

Geographic area served: 80-mile radius from Monticello.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone who has a visual or physical disability that impairs his or her ability to read may be eligible to obtain a special radio.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-12:00 PM;

Sat.-Sun. 8:00 AM-11:00 PM; local programming

presented 11:00 AM-11:00 PM weekdays, 11:00

AM-12:00 PM weekends. Contact the reading service for exact schedule.

Accessibility: Wheelchair access to first floor.

Staff: Only one paid staff member; all others are volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Presents descriptive narration of popular public television shows like Mystery!, Nature and Masterpiece Theatre.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, books, periodicals, as well as local and area advertisements, books, cooking programs, medical programs senior citizen features, entertainment programming and In-Touch Network from New York, with its coverage of popular magazines to those in east central Illinois. Publications include Wall Street Journal, Decatur Herald & Review, Bloomington-Normal Pantagraph, Champaign-Urbana News Gazette, Christian Science Monitor, Vermilion Co. edition of the News-Gazette, The Gibson City Courier, and the Rantoul Press.

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

■ School for the blind

658 East State Street

Jacksonville, IL 62650

Tel: (217) 479-4400

(217) 479-4415 (TDD/TTY)

(217) 479-4479 (Fax)

www.morgan.k12.il.us/isvi/homepage.htm

E-mail: dhsvii05@dhs.state.il.us

Marjorie Olson, Interim Superintendent,

DHSVR29@dhs.state.il.us

Trudy Haffer, K-12 Principal, (217) 479-4436,

DHSVII1@dhs.state.il.us

Patricia Langdon, Low Vision Coordinator,

dhsvi11@dhs.state.il.us

Les Stevens, Pupil Personnel Services Director,

DHSVI06@dhs.state.il.us

Brenda Stewart, Technology Specialist, (217) 479-4428,

DHSRC78@dhs.state.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for visually impaired, deaf-blind, and multiply disabled blind students.

Established: 1849.

County/District where located: Morgan County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Resident of Illinois with visual impairment between the ages of birth through 21.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during academic school year, at other times as dictated by programs.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories available.

Staff: 143 full-time. Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance as needed.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation, individual and group counseling. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers grades K through 12, college prep, general academic, and pre-vocational/vocational programs.

Employment: Provides career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, prevocational/vocational skills, job retention. Refers

for and provides consultation to other agencies for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Evaluates eye health, treats eye conditions, and provides audiology therapy, general medical services, and speech therapy. Contracts, refers, and provides consultation to other agencies for other health services.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to parents upon request.

Preschool: Offers a non-residential, day student preschool program.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in special education and regular in-service training programs.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, swimming, music, drama, track, wrestling. Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in development of living skills.

Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

407 South Dearborn Street

Suite 1000

Chicago, IL 60605-1117

Tel: (800) 433-4772

(312) 922-8710

(312) 922-8713 (Fax)

www.eyehellinois.org

E-mail: ispb@ehil.org

James A. McKechnie, Jr., Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To reduce preventable causes of blindness through information, education, eye safety and research.

Established: 1916.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: 4.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: The Visionary (newsletter). Brochures on major eye diseases, eye care and eye safety.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Promotes eye health and safety through public education programs.

Professional Training: Offers professional education programs.

Illinois State Board of Education: Department of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

100 North First Street

Springfield, IL 62777-0001

Tel: (217) 782-4870

(217) 782-1900 (TDD/TTY)

(217) 782-9224 (Fax)

www.isbe.net/spec-ed/default.htm

Christopher A. Koch, Director, Special Education,
Chris.Koch@isbe.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Sangamon County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired students in local and residential schools.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists parents, teachers and service providers with information about continuum of services in the state.

Education Services: Oversees programs for students ages 3-21.

Preschool: Oversees programs for children ages 0-3.

Illinois State Board of Education: Early Childhood Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

100 North First Street

Springfield, IL 62777

Tel: (217) 524-4835

(217) 785-7849 (Fax)

www.isbe.net/earlychi/default.htm

Kay Henderson, Division Administrator,
khenders@isbe.net

Mary Ann Anthony, Principal Consultant for Early Childhood, manthony@isbe.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services for children from birth through age 5.

Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

401 East Washington Street

Springfield, IL 62701

Tel: (800) 665-5576 (Illinois only)

(217) 782-9260

(888) 261-7863 (TDD/TTY)

(217) 558-4723 (Fax)

www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/who_we_are/talking_book_and_braille_service/home.html

E-mail: sruda@ilsos.net

Sharon D. Ruda, Director, sruda@ilsos.net

Patricia Salamon, Correspondence Operator,
psalamon@ilsos.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a full range of library services specializing in braille and talking books and to enrich the quality of life for all residents of Illinois who are eligible for our program.

County/District where located: Sangamon County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical, visual or reading impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Budget: \$2,700,000.

Clients served annually: 26,000.

Staff: 3 librarians, 8 support staff.

Fee structure: Free.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides audio cassette books, braille books, descriptive videos, old time radio shows, cassette players and online reference services to individuals who have difficulty reading standard print material.

Illinois State University

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Campus Box 5910

Normal, IL 61790-5910

Tel: (309) 438-8982

(309) 438-3467 (TDD/TTY)

(309) 438-8699 (Fax)

www.coe.ilstu.edu

Jim Thompson, Chairperson, Special Education,
jrthomp@ilstu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1857.

County/District where located: McLean County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate and graduate (master's, doctoral) programs for teachers of the visually handicapped and multihandicapped. Offers program for certification in education of visually impaired children through distance education.

International Association of Lions Clubs (Lions Clubs International)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, VICTORS Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

820 South Damen

Chicago, IL 60612

Tel: (312) 569-7531

(312) 569-7547 (Fax)

Thomas R. Stelmack, O.D., Chief, Optometry Service
and Director, VICTORS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive multidisciplinary low vision rehabilitation services to partially sighted veterans in a manner allowing training with devices prescribed and dispensed during program.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Midwest/north central United States.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired veterans.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-3:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers counseling by social worker, psychologist, audiologist.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers residency and internship programs for optometrists.

Rehabilitation: Offers intensive 4-day residential rehabilitation program for partially sighted veterans.

Johanna Bureau for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

8 South Michigan Avenue
Suite 300

Chicago, IL 60603

Tel: (312) 332-6076

(312) 332-0780 (Fax)

Edith R. Weiner, Executive Chairman

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe print into braille.

Established: 1924.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Braille reader.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Funded by: Private donations.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: Two part-time staff.

Fee structure: Braille \$.30 per master page for original transcription and \$.15 per copy of existing master.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, personal enrichment.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Loyola University Medical Center: Ophthalmology Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2160 South First Avenue

Maywood, IL 60153

Tel: (708) 216-3833 (Clinic)

(708) 216-3557 (Fax)

www.luhs.org/

Robert Tracy Williams, Low Vision and Visual
Rehabilitation Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Chicago metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Typically, referred by attending physician.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Fee structure: Varies with category of service.

Additional information: Small low-vision clinic within Department of Ophthalmology. Wide range of low-vision tools available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Mary Bryant Home for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Residential facility

2960 Stanton Street

Springfield, IL 62703

Tel: (217) 529-1611

(217) 529-6975 (Fax)

www.marybryanthome.org

E-mail: mbha@springnet1.com

Jerry P. Curry, Executive Director,
jcurry@springnet1.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide for blind or visually impaired people the opportunity to live in a safe, secure, well-maintained, residential supportive living facility (SLF) built and designed specifically to meet their needs.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Sangamon.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind, must pass a preadmissions screening, be without a primary or secondary diagnosis of DD or chronic MI, be certified by a physician as requiring the level of care in a supportive living facility, have a TB test 3 months prior to admission and have an income no less than the current maximum allowable amount from SSI.

Ages served: 22 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM for Administrative Office, otherwise a 24/7 facility.

Accessibility: Single level, wheelchair accessible, braille signage. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: The Mary Bryant Home is a certified supportive living facility with both private and shared rooms, a courtyard, dining facilities, activity room and library. It has an in-house store and offers laundry services and transportation.

Staff: 18 full-time and 8 part-time. Full health care department with an RN, LPNs, and CNAs on staff. A full-time Activities Director, Dietary Department,

Housekeeping/Maintenance and Administrative support available.

Fee structure: Private pay or public assistance.

Publications: On The Home Front (published quarterly and available in print, large print and in braille).

Additional information: Mary Bryant Home is the only facility in Illinois designed and built to meet the needs of the blind and visually impaired community.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Housing Services to older persons.

Housing Services: Operates resident facility for seniors who are blind.

Rehabilitation: Provides various rehabilitation services to residents.

Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center, Alliance Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

600 High Point Lane
Suite 2

East Peoria, IL 61611

Tel: (800) 426-0709 (Toll free in Illinois)

(309) 694-7935

(309) 694-9230 (Fax)

www.mitbc.org/

Lori Bell, Librarian, lbell@alliancelibrarysystem.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide, in cooperation with libraries and other appropriate institutions, a broad range of library services for eligible visually, physically, and learning disabled residents of Illinois.

Established: 1996.

Geographic area served: Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Effingham, Ford, Fulton, Henry, Iroquois, Livingston, Logan, Macon, Marshall, Mason, McLean, Menard, Moultrie, Peoria, Piatt, Sangamon, Shelby, Stark, Tazewell, Vermillion, and Woodford Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Quarterly newsletters.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers presentations and exhibits.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center, Quincy Office, Alliance Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

515 York

Quincy, IL 62301

Tel: (800) 537-1274 (In Illinois only)

(217) 224-6619

(217) 224-6619 (TDD/TTY)

(217) 224-9818 (Fax)

www.mitbc.org

E-mail: cstarman@alliancelibrarysystem.com

Lori Bell, Librarian, lbell@alliancelibrarysystem.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve individuals and institutions with patrons who cannot comfortably read standard print due to a visual problem or cannot hold a book to turn its pages due to a physical problem.

Established: 1996.

Geographic area served: Adams, Bond, Brown, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fulton, Greene, Hancock, Henderson, Jersey, JoDaviess, Knox, Lee Macoupin, Madison, McDonough, Mercer, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Ogle, Pike, Rock Island, Schuyler, Scott, St. Clair, Stephenson, Warren, Whiteside, and Winnebago Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Produces materials in braille on request.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes to blind and physically handicapped persons.

Minds Eye Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

9541 Church Circle Drive

Belleville, IL 62223

Tel: (618) 394-6221 (Missouri residents may call 314-241-3400 and ask for extension 6221.)

(618) 394-6438 (Fax)

E-mail: mindseye@oblatesusa.org

Al Schon, Executive Director, (618) 394-6442,
aschon@oblatesusa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality information and entertainment programming to enhance the lives of persons who are blind or print disabled.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: St. Claire County.

Geographic area served: Greater St. Louis metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Healthcare worker must certify that listener is blind, has low vision, or is unable to hold or turn the pages of a newspaper.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-0:00 PM, Sat.-Sun. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, United Way.

Budget: \$513,000.

Clients served annually: 1750.

Staff: 5 full-time, 5 part-time, 150+ volunteers. Paid Staff: Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Program Director, Operations Manager, Board Operator, Station Engineer, Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteer Staff: Readers, Board Operators, Clerical Assistants.

Fee structure: Service is free. Special receivers required to hear programs are loaned to listeners.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Mind's Eye Information Service also provides service to 85 local nursing homes, hospitals and retirement centers serving an additional 14,000 residents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Broadcasts various special interest announcements and selections from newspapers (St. Louis Post Dispatch, Belleville News Democrat, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Christian Science Monitor) and People and Time magazines. Also reads from local grocery and retail store ads. Other programs feature information on areas such as pets, cooking, sports, blindness and disability.

Northern Illinois Radio Information Service/Northern Public Radio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

Riverfront Museum Park
711 North Main Street
Rockford, IL 61103

Tel: (815) 972-2955
(815) 963-5374 (Fax)

www.northernpublicradio.org

CindyLynn Ostergard, Director, NIRIS,
clostergard@niu.edu

Doug Herrington, DeKalb Volunteer Coordinator,
(815) 753-0076, (815) 753-9938 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide current print information to blind and print impaired citizens of northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: DeKalb County.

Geographic area served: Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Certified print-impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Clients served annually: 600.

Staff: 1.3. One full-time, one permanent part-time.

Fee structure: None.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Rockford Register Star, Janesville Gazette, Chicago Tribune & Sun Times, DeKalb Daily Chronicle, Christian Science Monitor, Boone County Ink, Freeport Journal Standard, Rochelle News Ledger, Dixon Telegraph, Geneva Republican, Ottawa Daily Times, Sauk Valley Daily Gazette, Pecatonica/Winnebago Gazette, Delavan Enterprise, Rockton Herald.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

DeKalb: Northern Public Radio Broadcast Center, 801 North 1st Street, DeKalb, IL 60115

Northern Illinois University

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Department of Teaching and Learning
Programs in Vision
DeKalb, IL 60115

Tel: (815) 753-8459

(815) 753-8594 (Fax)

www.cedu.niu.edu/tlrn/visualdisabilities/visuladisahp.html

E-mail: vision@niu.edu

Gaylen Kapperman, Coordinator/Professor, Programs in Vision, (81) 753-8453, gkapperman@niu.edu

Toni Heinze, Associate Professor, Programs in Vision, (815) 753-8452, theinze@niu.edu

Jodi Sticken, Director, Orientation and Mobility Program, Programs in Vision, (815) 753-8456, jsticken@niu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To train special education teachers, rehabilitation specialists, orientation and mobility instructors, and foster research and development.

Established: 1954.

County/District where located: DeKalb.

Geographic area served: National.

Eligibility requirements: Must be enrolled student.

Accessibility: Completely accessible.

Residential Facilities: Yes.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

Fee structure: Tuition and fees.

Additional information: Northern Illinois University has been active since 1954, making it one of the oldest training programs in the blindness field in the country.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate and graduate programs for teachers of visually impaired and multiply disabled children, for rehabilitation teachers, and for orientation and mobility instructors.

Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation: Ophthalmology Department

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

675 North St. Clair, #15-150

Chicago, IL 60611

Tel: (312) 695-8150

(312) 695-3652 (Fax)

www.nmff.org/clinicaldepts/department.asp?id=39

Carol Barron, Director, Low Vision, Department of
Ophthalmology, cbarron@nsvc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive medical care in association with Northwestern University School of Medicine.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants.

Staff: Optometrist, optician, ophthalmologists.

Fee structure: Accepts Medicare, Medicaid, major medical insurance.

Publications: Health newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance and consultative support to local school systems, teaching of visually impaired students.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals for mobility, computer training, counseling, social work, medical services, independent living skills training, vocational training.

Low Vision: Evaluates and prescribes appropriate optical devices, provides support and follow-up, and makes referrals to agencies and other professionals. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

NSSEO Vision Support Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

799 W. Kensington Road

Mount Prospect, IL 60056-1111

Tel: (847) 463-8100

(847) 463-8115 (TDD/TTY)

(847) 463-8114 (Fax)

www.nsseo.org/index.html

E-mail: info@nsseo.org

Shelle E. Hamer, Coordinator, shamer@nsseo.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To build and strengthen home, school and community partnerships in order to enable students with special needs to become participating members of society.

Established: 1968.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Northwest suburban Chicago.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: School hours.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Government grants, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Certified TVI, O&M, and rehabilitation teachers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision assessments and clinics and rehabilitation and orientation and mobility assessments. Provides referral through school districts only.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides support for member school districts.

Early Intervention: Offers assessment only. Contact through CFC.

Education Services: Provides itinerant teachers to member school districts.

Employment: Transition services provided to students ages 14-21 educated in member districts.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Training and support available.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services, including orientation and mobility and direct vision services, to students of member school districts ages 3-21.

Peoria Area Blind People's Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2905 West Garden Street

Peoria, IL 61605

Tel: (309) 637-3693

Mabel L. Van Dusen, Executive Director, (309) 637-3696

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide social and educational services for visually handicapped residents of central Illinois.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Peoria County.

Geographic area served: 40-mile radius of Peoria County courthouse.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired and families.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Funded by: Endowments, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Staff: 1 full-time, 3 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No charge for membership.

Publications: Newsletter (monthly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells braille, large-print materials. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Speech output systems.

Counseling: Assesses needs and offers individual and family counseling, support network, peer counseling, information and referral service to other agencies.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services to individuals and other agencies.

Rehabilitation: Provides referral services and consultation to other agencies and volunteer opportunities for clients.

Staff: 63 full-time, 15 part-time; uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No fee for parents or school districts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides statewide technical assistance for children who are deaf-blind.

Counseling: Provides school and training placement. Refers and contracts for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Provides instruction in pre-vocational and daily living skills and community-based education.

Employment: Offers supported employment training opportunities.

Health/Medical: Provides audiology; general medical services; occupational, physical and speech therapy. Refers for and contracts for other medical services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers after-school evening and weekend programs, including arts and crafts, residential summer camp, swimming, track.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, gesticulation, handwriting, home management, orientation and mobility, sensory training.

Philip J. Rock Center and School

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **School for the blind**

818 DuPage Boulevard

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Tel: (800) 771-1158 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(630) 790-2474 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(800) 771-1232 (TDD/TTY)

(630) 790-4893 (Fax)

www.project-reach-illinois.org

E-mail: prc@aol.com

Christine D. Lechnick, Chief Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational and some residential services for children who are deaf-blind.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: DuPage County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Auditory and visual impairment (combined sensory impairment).

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: Meets ADA standards. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory.

Prevent Blindness America (PBA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Radio Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Radio reading station**

Wabash Valley College

2200 College Drive

Mt. Carmel, IL 62863

Tel: (618) 262-8641

(618) 262-8962 (Fax)

www.iecc.cc.il.us

Glenda C. Raber, Program Director, raberg@iecc.cc.il.us

Jerry L. Bayne, Coordinator of Community Services, baynej@iecc.cc.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide pertinent and recent print media information to residents in a nine-county region of southeastern Illinois who have a vision disability.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Wabash County.

Geographic area served: 45-mile radius from Mt. Carmel, including portions of Indiana.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Staff: One full-time director who coordinates volunteers and one part-time engineer.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from area daily newspapers (New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Evansville Courier, Mt. Carmel Daily Republican Register, others).

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Illinois Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Alternate media producer**

18 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60603
Tel: (630) 420-0722
(708) 349-9356 (Fax)
www.rfbid.org

Dave Smith, Executive Director, Illinois Unit, (312) 236-8715, (312) 236-8719 (Fax), dsmith@rfbid.org
Douglas Hagman, Outreach Coordinator, dhagman@rfbid.org
Barbara Stone, Director of Development, (312) 236-8715, (312) 236-8719 (Fax), bstone@rfbid.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Cook County.

Geographic area served: Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-8:00 PM, Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Sat. 9:30 AM-1:30 PM.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 8 full-time paid staff, 11 part-time paid staff, 400 volunteers.

Fee structure: Please refer to www.rfbid.org.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks.

Community Outreach Programs: RFB&D Outreach provides teacher training to familiarize educators with the services provided by RFB&D.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Professional Training: Provides teacher training to familiarize educators with the services provided by RFB&D.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Naperville: Studio Location, 1268 East Chicago Avenue, Naperville, IL 60540

Orland Park: Studio Location, 9612C West 143rd Street, Orland Park, IL 60462

Winnetka: Studio Location, 708 Oak Street, Winnetka, IL 60093

SASED/DuPage/West Cook Regional Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Educational agency**

1500 South Grace
Lombard, IL 60148
Tel: (630) 629-7272 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(630) 629-0544 (Fax)

Joan L. Allison, Director, Services for Visually Impaired, jallison@dupage.k12.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: DuPage County.

Geographic area served: DuPage and Western Cook Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 13 full-time early childhood/teachers of visually impaired children, O&M instructors, therapists.

Fee structure: Free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides complete diagnostic evaluation of functional vision.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance to any student with a visual impairment.

Education Services: Provides direct instruction in all developmental areas to students identified by individualized education program.

Preschool: Offers classes for visually impaired children, resource rooms, and vision itinerant teacher to other programs for students ages 3-21.

Southern Illinois Radio Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1003 South Oakland Avenue

SIU Mailcode 6720

Carbondale, IL 62901-6720

Tel: (618) 453-2808

(618) 453-2801 (Fax)

www.wsiu.org/ourproduction/siris/index.shtml

E-mail: Lisa.Morrisette@wsiu.org

Lisa J. Morrisette-Zapp, Manager, Broadcasting Service,
lisa_morrisette@wsiu.pbs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information through broadcast to individuals unable to read for themselves.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Jackson County.

Geographic area served: Southern Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Must be physically unable to read.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Average accessibility.

Funded by: Foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Budget: \$30,000.

Clients served annually: 400.

Staff: 4. 1 full-time staff, 2 student workers, 1 Easter Seals worker.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts print materials to the sight-impaired on a sideband of WSIU-FM.

Publications include the Southern Illinoisian, Marion Daily Republican, The Daily Register, Murphsboro American.

Southern Illinois Talking Book Center, Shawnee Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

607 S. Greenbriar Road

Carterville, IL 62918-1600

Tel: (800) 455-2665 (Toll free in Illinois)

(618) 985-8375 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(618) 985-4211 (Fax)

www.shawls.lib.il.us/talkingbooks

Diana B. Sussman, Librarian,
dbrawley@shawls.lib.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: The 34 counties of southern Illinois, with referral to NLS libraries elsewhere in IL and the U.S.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical limitations or reading disabilities that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is accessible, although the majority of service is provided via telephone and postal service.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, state funds.

Clients served annually: 2500.

Staff: 5 full-time and 2 half-time staff. 1

Director/Librarian; 2.5 Reader Advisors; 2.5 Circulation Clerks.

Fee structure: All service is free to qualifying individuals and organizations.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter provided to registered library patrons.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides audio books, braille, descriptive videos and information services to persons with visual or physical limitations or reading disabilities that prevent the reading of standard print material.

Southern Illinois University: Disability Support Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Woody Hall B150

Carbondale, IL 62901-4705

Tel: (618) 453-5738

(618) 453-2292 (TDD/TTY)

(618) 453-5700 (Fax)

www.siu.edu/~dss/

E-mail: dsssiu@siu.edu

Sandy Samples, Services Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Jackson County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Southern Illinois.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Funded by: Public funds, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses students with visual impairment at intake for special needs.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print). **Types of content:** Educational materials as required by Southern Illinois University for its blind or visually impaired students. On-demand services of various content and types available to the general public.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to outside agencies assisting blind or visually impaired persons.

Counseling: Offers support services for blind or visually impaired university students.

Rehabilitation: Works with newly blind students to orient them regarding locations of classrooms and other facilities.

Southern Will County Cooperative for Special Education (SOWIC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

1207 North Larkin Avenue

Joliet, IL 60435

Tel: (815) 741-7777

(915) 741-7779 (Fax)

www.SOWIC.org

Patricia M. Hall, Program Administrator, Visually Impaired Programs, (815) 741-7779 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To build SOWIC into a world class educational service provider by valuing each child; valuing parent input; fostering self esteem and independence; listening to and respecting the needs and differences of others; being honest and performing with integrity; showing kindness to others; and providing a nurturing environment.

County/District where located: Will County.

Geographic area served: Grundy, Will, Kendall, Kankakee, and LaSalle Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Students go through a multi-disciplinary assessment.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

Staff: 3 for SOWIC, 19 total for the five counties. Two full-time certified teachers of the visually impaired and a program administrator who coordinates services for the visually impaired for a five county area.

Fee structure: No fee to parents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides braille, large print, taped materials and tactile graphics to students who meet the criteria for services for the visually impaired.

Assessment: Provides functional vision assessment.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Educational materials.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen

magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance to local schools with visually impaired children.

Early Intervention: Provides vision assessment and consultation for infants-age 3.

Education Services: Provides direct services to visually impaired children ages 3-21.

Preschool: Direct and consultation services provided to visually impaired children ages 3-5.

TCRC Sight Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

111 West Washington Street

Suite 410

East Peoria, IL 61611

Tel: (309) 698-4001

(309) 698-9227 (Fax)

E-mail: sightctr@mtco.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a broad range of services designed to meet critical, unmet needs of persons throughout Central Illinois who are blind or partially sighted.

County/District where located: Tazewell County.

Geographic area served: All of central Illinois without geographic restriction.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM; Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Client fees, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Staff: 8. Optometrists, RNs, Education Coordinator, O&M Specialist; Technology Specialist and Assistant; Rehabilitation Trainer. Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Offers household and health products. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Local utility statements.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers referrals and support for individuals who are visually impaired and their families. Provides educational presentations.

Low Vision: Provides assessment, diagnosis, and prescriptions. Provides training in the use of optical devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living.

Tri-States Audio Information Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

504 University Services Building
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL 61455
Tel: (800) 895-2912
(309) 298-2403
(309) 298-2133 (Fax)
www.tristatesaudio.org
E-mail: AIS@wiu.edu

Carol A. Dennhardt, Director, ca-dennhardt@wiu.edu
Ken Zahnle, Programming, ks-zahnle@wiu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make quality audio programming accessible to persons who are blind, visually impaired, learning disabled, or physically disabled.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: McDonough County.

Geographic area served: All or parts of a 20-county area in west central Illinois, southeast Iowa, and northeast Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, learning disabled, or physically disabled.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day. Local programming: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-11:00 PM, Sat.-Sun. 8:00 AM-11:30 PM. Overnight hours provided by a satellite network.

Clients served annually: 1,200.

Staff: 12. 2 full-time staff members and student broadcast assistants. Numerous volunteers contribute their time.

Fee structure: There is no charge to the listener.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Closed-circuit radio reading service operating in conjunction with public radio stations WIUM/WIUW/WQUB. Reads magazines, newspapers, novels. Provides topical programming concerning health and disabilities. Publications include numerous newspapers such as the following: Chicago Tribune, Peoria Journal Star, Ft. Madison Daily Democrat, Keokuk Daily Gate City, USA Today, Monmouth Daily Review Atlas, Macomb Eagle, Macomb Journal, Quincy Herald Whig, & Galesburg Register Mail. Provides volunteers who work

one-on-one with individuals who are blind, visually impaired, learning disabled, or physically disabled.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Disability Resources and Educational Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Postsecondary institution

1207 South Oak Street
Champaign, IL 61820
Tel: (217) 333-4605
(217) 333-4604 (TDD/TTY)
(217) 333-0248 (Fax)
www.disability.uiuc.edu
E-mail: disability@uiuc.edu

Bryan C. McMurray, Supervisor, Services for Sensory and Testing Accommodation, Rehabilitation Education Service (Disability Service), bryanmc@uiuc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide reasonable and effective disability-related accommodations and adjustments, both academic and nonacademic, to blind or visually impaired students, faculty, staff, and patrons of the University.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Champaign County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance to blind or visually impaired students, faculty, staff, and patrons of the University.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital
Hines, IL 60141
Tel: (708) 202-2272
(708) 531-7949 (Fax)
www.va.gov/hinesblindrehab
E-mail: hinesbrc@med.va.gov

Gerald A. Schutter, Director, (708) 202-2112, (708) 202-7949 (Fax), jerry.schutter@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the highest quality blind rehabilitation services through a broad range of rehabilitation, education, and research programs.

Established: 1948.

Geographic area served: Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, western Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind veterans only; ophthalmologic report required.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides counseling by psychologist and social worker.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational counseling and testing.

Low Vision: Conducts low vision evaluations for each veteran admitted to the Center and evaluates remaining vision. Prescribes special lenses or devices and provides training in their use.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers comprehensive evaluation and training in orientation and mobility.

Professional Training: Intern site for graduate students in rehabilitation teaching and orientation and mobility.

Rehabilitation: Provides a comprehensive blind rehabilitation training program.

Voices of Vision Talking Book Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

127 South First Street

Geneva, IL 60134

Tel: (800) 227-0625

(630) 208-0398

(630) 208-0399 (Fax)

www.dupagels.lib.il.us/pages/voices.html

Karen Odean, Librarian, kodean@dupagels.lib.il.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Kane County.

Geographic area served: Boone, Cook (except Chicago), DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, McHenry, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, and Will Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical limitations that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 10.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides books and magazines on audiocassette for persons unable to use standard print material due to visual or physical disabilities. Loans

playback equipment. Also provides braille materials and offers a summer reading program.

WCBU Radio Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1501 West Bradley Avenue

Jobst Hall 218

Peoria, IL 61625

Tel: (309) 677-3585

(309) 677-3462 (Fax)

www.bradley.edu/wcbu/ris.html

E-mail: wenger@bradley.edu

Lee Wenger, Radio Information Service Director,
wenger@bradley.edu

Louise E. Grawey, Volunteer Coordinator, (309)
677-3584

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Peoria County.

Geographic area served: 40-mile radius from Peoria.

Eligibility requirements: Sight impaired.

Hours of operation: Local Mon.-Fri. 11:00 AM-8:00 PM.

In-Touch Network all other times.

Clients served annually: 600.

Staff: 1. 50 volunteers do reading and taping; one paid staff director.

Fee structure: Free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from local papers, magazines and store fliers. Carries In-Touch Network from New York when not originating locally.

WUIS/WIPA Radio Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

University of Illinois at Springfield

Springfield, IL 62794-9243

Tel: (217) 206-6405

(217) 206-6527 (Fax)

www.wuis.org/

E-mail: ryaeg1@uis.edu

Rebecca L. Yaeger, Coordinator/Director,
ryaeg1@uis.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access to printed information to individuals who are print disabled.

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Sangamon County.

Geographic area served: 40-mile radius of Springfield, Illinois, and 40-mile radius of Pittsfield, Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Patrons need to be print-impaired. Equal access provided to persons who are visually impaired or have other physical impairments.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Clients served annually: Around 550 radios are placed in the community.

Staff: 2. Volunteers.

Fee structure: Service is free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Audiodescription: Provides audiodescription of performances, movies and other media.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Newspapers read include the State Journal Register, Jacksonville Courier, Pikes Press, Taylorville Breeze Courier, Pana Palladium. Adults are the target audience, but all who are print impaired are welcome to listen.

Indiana

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Indiana Family and Social Services
Administration: Division of Disability,
Aging and Rehabilitative Services, Blind
and Visually Impaired Services
(877) 241-8144

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Indiana Family and Social Services
Administration: Division of Family and
Children, Bureau of Child Development
(800) 441-7837

Educational Services

Indiana Department of Education: Division of
Exceptional Learners
(877) 851-4106

Rehabilitation Services

Charles E. Bosma Rehabilitation Center for the
Blind and Visually Impaired
(877) 241-9288

Indiana Family and Social Services
Administration: Division of Disability,
Aging and Rehabilitative Services, Blind
and Visually Impaired Services
(877) 241-8144

School for the Blind

Indiana School for the Blind
(317) 253-1481

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Indiana Department of Education: Division of
Exceptional Learners

Information/Referral Centers

Indiana Talking Book and Braille Library, Indiana State
Library
League for the Blind and Disabled, Inc.
Prevent Blindness Indiana
Vision World Wide

Libraries

Allen County Public Library, Readers' Services
Department
Elkhart Public Library, Blind and Physically
Handicapped Services (NLS)
Evansville-Vanderburgh Public Library Talking Books
Services (NLS)
Indiana Talking Book and Braille Library, Indiana State
Library (NLS)

Northwest Indiana Subregional Library for the Blind
and Physically Handicapped, Lake County Public
Library (NLS)

Talking Books for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped, Bartholomew County Public Library
(NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Indiana University School of Optometry: Indianapolis
Eye Care Center

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Indiana Academy of Ophthalmology
Indiana Optometric Association

National Organizations

Vision World Wide

Radio Reading Stations

Indiana Reading Information Services
North Eastern Indiana Radio Reading Service

WNIN Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

ADEC Resources for Independence: Northern Indiana
Living Services and ADEC's VI
Bosma Industries for the Blind
Easter Seals Crossroads Rehabilitation Center
Evansville Association for the Blind
League for the Blind and Disabled, Inc.
Trade Winds Rehabilitation Center

ADEC Resources for Independence: Northern Indiana Living Services and ADEC's VI

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

19670 State Road 120
Building 3
P.O. Box 398
Bristol, IN 46507-0398
Tel: (877) 342-8954
(574) 848-7451
(574) 848-9289 (Fax)
www.adecinc.com
E-mail: StudebakerJ@adecinc.com
Paula Shively, CEO, shivelyp@adecinc.com
Julia A. Studebaker, Director,
StudebakerJ@adecinc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase independence of blind and visually impaired individuals, educate the community on vision loss, and promote growth and advocacy.

Established: 1953.

County/District where located: Elkhart County.

Geographic area served: Itinerant senior services for Elkhart, Kosciusko, Marshall, Laporte, St. Joseph Counties. Center-based services (not age-restricted) throughout northern Indiana. Also, southern Michigan for school-aged students or clients who wish to self-pay. Also Veterans in both Michigan and Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: State guidelines.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Vocational Rehabilitation clients and Veterans Administration clients have been housed at an area hotel weekdays for the duration of authorized instruction.

Clients served annually: 700.

Staff: 5 teaching staff and 1 clerical staff. All teaching staff have masters degrees in Blind Rehabilitation Teaching and have worked with the blind and visually impaired for 15 years. Clerical staff have worked for ADEC's blind services for 25 years.

Fee structure: NIILS works with clients 55 and older and is funded by a grant. Fees are only for the adaptive

Schools for the Blind

Indiana School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Family Service of Central Indiana: Program for Visually Impaired Adults

State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology through Action in Indiana

devices; there is no charge for teaching staff coming out. VI fee varies from \$48.50 to \$60.00 per hour depending on core teaching area and contract with funding source.
Publications: Brochures. Newsletter Vision Views.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Assist clients in securing services and adaptive devices necessary to maintain and/or increase their independence.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Health/Medical, Professional Training, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers evaluation of rehabilitative needs.

Computer Training: Itinerant and center-based training offered. Instruction includes keyboarding skills, word processing, internet browsing, and e-mail. Adaptive equipment including JAWS, Zoomtext, Magic, Dragon dictate, notetakers, and switch controls. Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing, e-mail, braille access.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance to other organizations serving blind and visually impaired persons.

Employment: Provides vocational rehabilitation and on-job-site consultation.

Health/Medical: Provides specific personal and medical management skills for diabetic elderly persons with visual impairments.

Information and Referral: Refers to community resources for blind and visually impaired for other services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training in rehabilitation services within hospitals, nursing homes.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, diabetic management, adaptive kitchen skills. Provides itinerant senior services for blind or visually impaired persons over 55. Provides training in skills of daily living for older adults.

Allen County Public Library, Readers' Services Department

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

200 East Berry Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Tel: (260) 421-1200
(260) 421-1385 (Fax)
www.acpl.lib.in.us/
E-mail: cnahrwold@acpl.lib.in.us
Jeff Krull, Director, jkrull@acpl.lib.in.us
Marilyn Allmandinger, Reader Services Department,
mallmandinger@acpl.lib.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1895.

Geographic area served: Allen County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information about available area library services for blind/visually impaired. Refers to community resources.

Library: Provides children's dual books (braille and ordinary type) for children and parents, large-print books, and small talking book selection.

Assistive Technology through Action in Indiana

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

32 E. Washington Street
Suite 1400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Tel: (800) 528-8246
(317) 486-8808
(800) 743-3333 (TDD/TTY)
(317) 486-8809 (Fax)
www.attaininc.org
E-mail: attain@attaininc.org
Gary Hand, Executive Director

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training and education for individuals and groups that are interested in AT and related services.

Financial Assistance: Offers referral to funding sources for individuals who are not sure what they qualify for.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Bosma Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

59 South State Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46201-3876
Tel: (800) 362-5463
(317) 684-0600
(317) 684-1946 (Fax)
www.bosma.org
E-mail: info@bosma.org
Lou L. Moneymaker, Executive Director/CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the lives of visually impaired or blind people through vocational, social, economic and personal development.

Established: 1985.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to all handicaps.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides job assessment, primarily manufacturing oriented.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides support and assistance in the use of adaptive technology.

Employment: Offers vocational training program and placement in sheltered, transitional, and competitive jobs.

Charles E. Bosma Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State rehabilitation services

445 North Pennsylvania Street
Suite 205
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Tel: (877) 241-9288 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(317) 232-1513 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(317) 233-0004 (Fax)
www.state.in.us/fssa/
Kay Hervey, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist Indiana citizens who are blind and visually impaired in achieving vocational and personal independence by providing and supporting statewide advocacy, effective and efficient services.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Marion.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Clients served annually: 117.

Staff: 9. Certified RTs and O&M specialists.

Fee structure: Vocational Rehabilitation sponsors most participants, except in the 55 and older program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides assistance to persons in wheelchairs and those who need materials in accessible formats.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Accessibility, Braille and Reading Instruction, Computer Training, Counseling, Employment, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers training in methods of communication including braille, keyboarding, handwriting, low vision techniques, use of recording techniques.

Computer Training: Offers training in use of computers, notetakers, low vision aids, scanners for personal and vocational use, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers counseling in adjustment to vision loss.

Employment: Offers vocational exploration and preparation.

In-Home Services: Provides training in cooking, personal care, and home management.

Information and Referral: Provides resource information and referrals for participants in training, and the public.

Low Vision: Provides training in low vision techniques and equipment, optical aids and lighting.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers course (average is 12 weeks) in independent travel, employment preparation, communications, and independent living skills. Offers intensive 12 week program; less intensive seniors program, and short-term goal specific training.

Easter Seals Crossroads Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4740 Kingsway Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Tel: (317) 466-1000

(317) 479-3232 (TDD/TTY)

(317) 466-2000 (Fax)

www.crossroads.easterseals.com/site/

PageServer?pagename=INCN_homepage

James J. Vento, President, jvento@x-roads.org

Wade Wingler, Manager, Ruth Lilli Assistive

Technology Center, (317) 446-2013,

wwingler@x-roads.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with children and adults with disabilities or special needs and their families to promote growth, independence and dignity.

Established: 1936.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Serves as a one-stop source for assistive technology needs for all individuals with disabilities.

Community Outreach Programs: Serves individuals in outlying areas of Indiana, persons with little or no access to programs available in the Indianapolis area.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services for children with disabilities under three years of age.

Employment: Offers a comprehensive program of employment services for adults with disabilities seeking jobs. Matches individuals with assistive technology designed to help them succeed with an educational or vocational goal. Assists both individuals with disabilities and employers in finding the best kinds of equipment and in finding ways to fund the purchase of that equipment. Provides ongoing support.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other community rehabilitation programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides occupational therapy rehabilitation services to maintain and enhance the independence of adults with low vision impairments.

Elkhart Public Library, Blind and Physically Handicapped Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

300 South Second Street

Elkhart, IN 46516-3184

Tel: (574) 294-2619

www.elkhart.lib.in.us/elkhart.hp/html/bph.html

Pat Ciancio, Librarian/Department Supervisor,

pciancio@elkhart.lib.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To give the best possible service to all patrons.

Established: 1968.

County/District where located: Elkhart County.

Geographic area served: Elkhart, Kosciusko, Lagrange, Marshall, St. Joseph, and Starke Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Braille signage.
Funded by: Government grants.
Staff: 1 full-time, 2 part-time.
Publications: Montage (newsletter affiliated with Elkhart Public Library).
Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Assists patrons with referrals to other sources.
Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Evansville Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

500 Second Avenue
 Evansville, IN 47710
 Tel: (812) 422-1181
 (812) 424-3154 (Fax)
www2.evansville.edu/ebaweb/
 E-mail: eabcdc@evansville.net

Carla Horrell, Executive Director
 Patti Elsperman, Parent and Infant Specialist
 Diane Hagler, Rehabilitation Department
 Carol Hudgions, Coordinator, Career Development Center
 Krysti Hughes, Orientation and Mobility Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals with a handicap and their families to achieve the highest level of independent living appropriate to their potential.
Established: 1918.

County/District where located: Vandenburg County.

Geographic area served: Southwestern Indiana, southern Illinois, and western Kentucky.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00AM-4:30PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 25 full-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille, handwriting, and typing.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides orientation and mobility training through contracts with regional school corporations.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, word processing.

Counseling: Offers evaluations; psychological testing and evaluations; individual, group, family/parent,

couple counseling; placement in school, training, institution; and referral to community services.

Early Intervention: Provides services to parents and caregivers of infants who are blind and visually impaired.

Education Services: Offers summer on-campus college program.

Employment: Provides vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, sheltered workshops, placement, follow-up service.

Information and Referral: Refers for some health services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Reading Services: Operates cooperative program with local public radio station (WNIN-FM).

Recreation: Offers special programs for persons over 55.

Rehabilitation: Provides remedial education and training in personal management and home management skills in client's home and community.

Evansville-Vanderburgh Public Library Talking Books Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

22 SE Fifth Street
 Evansville, IN 47708-1694
 Tel: (812) 428-8235
 (812) 428-8215 (Fax)
www.evpl.org
 E-mail: tbs@evpl.org

Barbara Shanks, Talking Books Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Vanderburgh County.

Geographic area served: Daviess, Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Martin, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 600-900.

Staff: 3.

Fee structure: No fees.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Family Service of Central Indiana: Program for Visually Impaired Adults

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

615 North Alabama Street, Suite 320

English Foundation Building

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Tel: (317) 634-6341

(317) 634-6341 (TDD/TTY)

(317) 464-9575 (Fax)

www.family-service-inc.org

E-mail: daustin@family-service-inc.org

Edie Olson, President

Deanna Austin, Program Manager, Older and Challenged Adult Services,

daustin@family-service-inc.org

Christine Morris, Counselor,

christinem@family-service-inc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make families strong through counseling, education and support.

Established: 1835.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Marion, Boone, Hamilton and Hendricks Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired resident of Marion County over 18 years of age; blind or visually impaired resident of Boone, Hamilton or Hendricks counties over the age of 55.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Clients served annually: 7,000 (total organization).

Staff: 50. Professional counselors include Master's level therapists and a blind rehabilitation teacher.

Fee structure: Accepts most major insurances including Medicaid. Others pay based on a sliding fee scale.

Publications: The Program for Visually Impaired Adults is a network where friends strengthen one another and individuals receive counseling and in-home rehabilitation.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Counseling, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers home-based assessment and referral/assistance.

Counseling: Offers counseling to help families overcome depression, grief and marital or family conflicts such as communication problems and children's behavioral issues. Also provides counseling for more serious issues such as domestic violence and substance abuse.

In-Home Services: Counselors visit clients in their homes to provide counseling, education, referrals to other community organizations and support to enable adults to continue to live independently.

Information and Referral: Provides information on skill development, eye diseases and related topics and referral services to community resources. Refers for other educational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, and home management skills in client's home and community.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Lebanon: 327 N. Lebanon Street, Suite 103, Lebanon, IN 46052, daustin@family-service-inc.org

Noblesville: 942 N. 10th Street, Noblesville, IN 46060, daustin@family-service-inc.org

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: North Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Illinois.

Indiana Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

9959 Allisonville Road

Indianapolis, IN 46038

Tel: (317) 577-3062

(317) 578-7718 (Fax)

www.indianaeyemds.com

E-mail: iao@indianaeyemds.com

Kim Williams, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote information services in ophthalmology by conducting workshops and training courses for professional personnel and by providing legislative consultation.

Established: 1917.

Publications: Eyeball-to-Eyeball (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Professional Training: Offers training courses for professional personnel.

Indiana Department of Education: Division of Exceptional Learners

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ State educational services

Room 229, State House

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2798

Tel: (877) 851-4106 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(317) 232-0570 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(317) 232-0589 (Fax)
www.ideanet.doe.state.in.us/exceptional/
 Robert A. Marra, Associate Superintendent,
rmarra@doe.state.in.us
 Leslie Durst, IERC, (317) 232-0587
 Vicki Hershman, PATINS Project, (317) 243-5737

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and support equal opportunities, high expectations, and excellent services that, together, result in successful outcomes for students with disabilities and to empower students to contribute to the community, lead self-directed lives, and pursue rewarding careers.

Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Determined pursuant to P.L. 101-476.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (large print).

Types of content: Educational materials.

Computer Training: . Provides training at regional sites.

Education Services: Administers the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for students with disabilities, ages 3 to 21. Monitors local education agencies on site.

Library: Operates the Indiana Educational Resource Center (IERC), 7725 North College Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-2504. Phone: (317) 232-0587.

Indiana Family and Social Services

Administration: Division of Disability, Aging and Rehabilitative Services, Blind and Visually Impaired Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services
- State unit on aging

Indiana Government Center
 402 West Washington Street
 Room W-453
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 Tel: (877) 241-8144 (Indiana only)
 (317) 232-1433
 (317) 232-6578 (Fax)
www.state.in.us/fssa/

Linda Quarles, Deputy Director,
lquarles@fssa.state.in.us
 Kay Herbey, Bosma Rehabilitation Center,
kherbey@fssa.state.in.us

John Trent, Rehabilitation Teaching Program,
jtrent@fssa.state.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To inform, protect, and serve older adults and individuals with disabilities and their families, in need of human services, resources, or support to attain employment and self-sufficiency or to maintain independence.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

In-Home Services: Provides a broad range of in-home and community-based services to older adults and persons of all ages with disabilities.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Rehabilitation: Administers Bosma Rehabilitation Center and Itinerant Rehabilitation Teaching Program. Collaborates with communities, local organizations, and other units of government to provide independent living services to older adults.

Indiana Family and Social Services

Administration: Division of Family and Children, Bureau of Child Development

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency

402 West Washington Street
 Room W-386
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 Tel: (800) 441-7837
 (317) 233-9229
 (317) 232-7948 (Fax)
www.state.in.us/fssa/first_step
 E-mail: FirstStepsWeb@fssa.state.in.us
 Dawn Downer, Part C Coordinator,
ddowner@fssa.state.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Indiana's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Coordinates a statewide system of local interagency councils for early intervention through the First Steps Program.

Indiana Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

201 North Illinois Street
Suite 1920

Indianapolis, IN 46204-4236

Tel: (317) 237-3560

(317) 237-3564 (Fax)

www.ioa.org

Ronald W. Wuensch, Executive Director,
rwuensch@cypressmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fulfill the vision and eye care needs of the public through clinical care, research, and education, all of which enhance the quality of life.

Established: 1898.

Indiana Reading Information Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1401 North Meridian Street

Indianapolis, IN 46202

Tel: (317) 636-2020

(317) 633-7418 (Fax)

www.wfyi.org

E-mail: viewerswfyi@wfyi.org

LLoyd Wright, President/General Manager

Don Newman, Operations Manager,
dnewman@wfyi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: 45-mile radius from Indianapolis.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, books hour, live reads, In Touch. Publications include Indianapolis Recorder, Indianapolis Business Journal, Topics, USA Today, Indianapolis Star, a variety of other newspapers.

Indiana School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

7725 North College Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46240

Tel: (317) 253-1481

(317) 251-6511 (Fax)

www.isb.butler.edu/

E-mail: answers@isb.state.in.us

James Durst, Superintendent, jdurst@isb.state.in.us
Leslie Durst, Indiana Education Resource Center

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as a benchmark for educating the blind and visually impaired by guiding each student down his/her unique path to meaningful adulthood through appropriate on-and off-campus learning opportunities and statewide outreach services that promote high standard of academic/vocational achievement; independent and healthy living skills; development of skills specific to the blind; use and application of technology; respect for self and others.
Established: 1847.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: School-age residents of the state who are blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24-hour program, five days per week.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Independent and semi-independent living homes are available in addition to dormitories.

Clients served annually: 170 - 200 on campus.

Staff: 192. Has both on and off-campus programs for school-age state residents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides psychoeducational, orientation and mobility, low vision, literacy assessment, functional vision assessment, computer skills, and preschool assessment.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to public schools in all academic and skill areas.

Counseling: Comprehensive services available in meeting students' individual needs.

Education Services: Offers programs for preschool through 12th grade. Programs are adapted for student's individual needs. Coordinates the operation of the Indiana Educational Resource Center (IERC) and is responsible for the delivery of specialized materials to Indiana's visually handicapped students in the public school system.

Employment: Provides evaluation, pre-vocational and career preparation training.

Health/Medical: Provides general medical, psychiatric, neurological, physical therapy, occupational therapy, dental, low vision services, genetic counseling.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent consultations, direct service, training and workshops.

Preschool: Provides consultation and direct services to preschool children and parents.

Professional Training: Offers workshops for parents and professionals.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs in bowling, swimming, wrestling, track, cheerleading, scouting, intramural sports, forensics, community activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in personal management, home economics, and independent living skills.

Indiana Talking Book and Braille Library, Indiana State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ National Library Service library

140 North Senate Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Tel: (800) 622-4970

(317) 232-3684

(317) 232-7763 (TDD/TTY)

(317) 232-3728 (Fax)

www.statelib.lib.in.us

E-mail: lbph@statelib.lib.in.us

Lissa Shanahan, Librarian, lsahanahan@statelib.lib.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To circulate books and magazines in braille, large print, and on cassette to any Indiana resident who cannot use regular printed materials because of a visual or physical disability.

Established: 1934.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 3 to 106.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 12000.

Fee structure: none.

Publications: Hoosier Highlights; In Touch.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and braille books to any Indiana resident who cannot use standard printed materials because of a visual or physical disability.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Columbus: Talking Books Service, Bartholomew County Public Library, 536 Fifth Street, Columbus, IN 47201, Talkingbooks@barth.lib.in.us

Elkhart: Blind & Physically Handicapped Service, Elkhart Public Library, 300 South Second Street, Elkhart, IN 46516, pciancio@elkhart.lib.in.us

Evansville: Talking Books Service, Evansville-Vanderburgh County Public Library, 200 S.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47708

Merrillville: Northwest Indiana Subregional Library, Lake County Public Library, 1919 West 81st Avenue, Merrillville, IN 46410, Tbooks@lakeco.lib.in.us

Indiana University School of Optometry: Indianapolis Eye Care Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

501 Indiana Avenue

Suite 100

Indianapolis, IN 46202

Tel: (317) 321-1470

(317) 321-1475 (Fax)

www.opt.indiana.edu/clinics/centers/map_iecc.htm

Brad Sutton, Clinic Director, brsutton@indiana.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote information services in ophthalmology and optometry, to conduct workshops and training courses for professional personnel, to evaluate low-vision patients and provide training in use of low-vision devices.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to disabled persons.

Staff: Optometrist, optometry interns, optometric assistant/technician.

Fee structure: Fee for service, insurance, special programs for indigent.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment to older persons.

Assessment: Performs medical and functional assessments of vision for both healthy individuals and those requiring low vision services.

Assistive Products: Low vision devices sold to patients only. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations for rehabilitation teachers, orientation and mobility instructors, occupational therapists, parents, and other professionals.

Early Intervention: Assesses infants' medical eye condition and evaluates functional and developmental status.

Health/Medical: Evaluates, diagnoses, and treats medical eye conditions.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Professional Training: Offers low vision residency program.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Bloomington: Community Eye Care Center, 803 North Monroe, Bloomington, IN 47403

League for the Blind and Disabled, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Rehabilitation agency

5821 South Anthony Boulevard

Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Tel: (800) 889-3443 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(260) 441-0551 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(260) 441-7760 (Fax)

www.the-league.org

E-mail: the.league@verizon.net

David A. Nelson, President/CEO

Patricia L. Howard, Information and Referral
Coordinator

Verleash D. Jones, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life.

Established: 1950.

County/District where located: Allen County.

Geographic area served: Northeastern Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Any significant disability including visual impairments or blindness.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Fri. 8:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 15 full-time equivalent, 4 part-time; over 100 volunteers.

Fee structure: There may be third-party fees assessed for O&M and braille services. Most services are free.

Publications: Bi-monthly online newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Provides individual advocacy, as well as teaching personal advocacy, on a variety of disability-related issues.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille / Audio / Large Print Production to older persons.

Assessment: Provides orientation and mobility evaluations. Provides low vision evaluation.

Assistive Products: Maintains inventory of independent living aids and adaptive technology to provide equipment demonstrations, training, and loaner services.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** For-fee service.

Computer Training: Provides training in the use of adaptive computer technology.

Counseling: Offers individual or family counseling.

Health/Medical: Offers preschool vision screening in northeast Indiana.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral via phone, mail, e-mail, fax, office visit or home visit.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers family networking /support activities, advocacy assistance and training.

Recreation: Provides youth with opportunities to participate in recreational activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, communications, low vision technology, computer technology, household management, job accommodation.

Support Groups: Sponsors structured support groups for those interested in disability issues including sight loss.

North Eastern Indiana Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

7615 DiSalle Boulevard

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Tel: (260) 421-1376

(260) 421-1387 (Fax)

E-mail: neirrs@acpl.lib.in.us

Lisa K. Bordner, Manager, (260) 421-1375,

lbordner@acpl.lib.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide support to people who are unable to read for various reasons so that they may have access to timely printed information in order to more actively participate in society.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Allen County.

Geographic area served: Northeastern Indiana and a small portion of northwestern Ohio. Approximately 65 mile radius around Fort Wayne, IN.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Budget: \$100,000.

Clients served annually: 1000.

Staff: 1 full-time manager, 4 part-time staff.

Fee structure: Free service to blind, visually impaired, print-disabled.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers and magazines, sports, current events, book readings. Publications include the Journal Gazette, News Sentinel, and other area newspapers.

Northwest Indiana Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Lake County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1919 West 81st Avenue
Merrillville, IN 46410-5382
Tel: (219) 769-3541 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(219) 769-0690 (Fax)
www.lakeco.lib.in.us
E-mail: tbooks@lakeco.lib.in.us
Renee C. Lewis, Coordinator, rlewis@lakeco.lib.in.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines on cassette, magazines, in large print, and on descriptive videos for people who are visually handicapped in the northwest Indiana area.

County/District where located: Lake County.

Geographic area served: Jasper, Lake, LaPorte, Newton, and Porter Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Accessibility: ADA approved.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations.

Staff: 10 volunteers.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers group and individual literacy programs.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers community education programs.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Prevent Blindness Indiana

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

605 East Washington Street
5th Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Tel: (800) 232-2551 (In Indiana only)
(317) 955-9580
www.preventblindness.org

E-mail: Jwagner@pbeye.org

Maureen Golden, Program Director,
mgolden@pbeye.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Geographic area served: Indiana.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Offers vision screening for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health and eye safety free of charge.

Library: Maintains full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and teaching safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

Talking Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Bartholomew County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

536 Fifth Street
Columbus, IN 47201
Tel: (812) 379-1277
(812) 379-1275 (Fax)
www.barth.lib.in.us/TBColSub.html
E-mail: talkingbooks@barth.lib.in.us
Sharon Thompson, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a free service of reading materials to blind and physically challenged individuals and institutions.

Geographic area served: Bartholomew, Clark, Crawford, Decatur, Floyd, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Scott, and Washington Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Quarterly large-print newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Trade Winds Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Rehabilitation agency**

5901 West Seventh Avenue

Gary, IN 46406-0308

Tel: (800) 694-4242

(219) 949-4000

(219) 944-3733 (TDD/TTY)

(219) 944-8134 (Fax)

www.tradewindservices.org/

E-mail: twrc@netnitco.net

Zoey Mirkov, Visions Instructor/Manager

Tony Soeka, General Manager, TradeWinds Industries,

Adult and Children's Services, (219) 944-8136 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION**Mission:** To enhance the lives of children and adults with disabilities and special challenges.**Established:** 1966.**County/District where located:** Lake County.**Geographic area served:** Northwest Indiana.**Eligibility requirements:** Any person with a visual impairment.**Ages served:** 0 and above.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.**Accessibility:** ADA compliant.**Residential Facilities:** Residential facilities available.**SERVICES OFFERED****Aging:** Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.**Assessment:** Performs vision and vocational assessments.**Assistive Products:** Distributes home adaptation products and canes. Products for sale on site.**Early Intervention:** Offers developmental therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy for children from birth to 3.**Education Services:** Offers GED program.**Employment:** Provides vocational evaluation, work adjustment, vocational placement, vocational skills training, supported employment, follow-up services.**Information and Referral:** Provides referrals to other services.**Orientation and Mobility:** Provides orientation and mobility training.**Rehabilitation:** Provides training in personal management, home mechanics, daily living skills, and communications skills. Provides adult day care, personal adjustment training, and orientation and mobility training for the elderly.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Vision World Wide (VWW)

See U.S. National Organizations.

WNIN Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Radio reading station**

405 Carpenter Street

Evansville, IN 47708

Tel: (812) 423-2973

(812) 428-7548 (Fax)

www.wnin.org

Jean Noyes, Vice President & Radio Manager,
jnoyes@wnin.org**GENERAL INFORMATION****Established:** 1972.**County/District where located:** Vanderburgh County.**Geographic area served:** Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Sun. 8:00 AM-12 PM, In Touch 24 hours a day.**SERVICES OFFERED****Reading Services:** Broadcasts selections from newspapers and magazines (Gleaner, Courier Press).

Iowa

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Iowa Department for the Blind
(800) 362-2587

Iowa Department of Elder Affairs
(800) 532-3213

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Iowa State Department of Education: Bureau
of Children, Family and Community
Services
(515) 281-4030

Educational Services

Iowa State Department of Education: Bureau
of Children, Family and Community
Services
(515) 281-4030

Instructional Materials Center

Iowa Braille School Instructional Materials
Center

(319) 472-5221

Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped
(800) 362-2587

Rehabilitation Services

Iowa Department for the Blind
(800) 362-2587

School for the Blind

Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
(800) 645-4579

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Iowa

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
(NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics: Low Vision
Rehabilitation Service

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Association of Certified Orthoptists
Iowa Academy of Ophthalmology
Iowa Optometric Association

National Organizations

American Association of Certified Orthoptists

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Northern Iowa Teacher Training Program
for Students with Visual Impairments

Radio Reading Stations

Iowa Radio Reading Information Service

Schools for the Blind

Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School

State Technology Programs

Iowa COMPASS, Center for Disabilities and
Development

American Association of Certified Orthoptists (AACO)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Great Plains Region Office (HKNC)

See Kansas.

Iowa Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

Metro Square One, Suite 120
10 W. Phillip Road
Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1730
Tel: (888) 843-3937 (Local)
(847) 680-1682 (Fax)
www.midwesteyemd.org
E-mail: eyeorg@aol.com
Richard H. Paul, Executive Director

Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1002 G Avenue
Vinton, IA 52349
Tel: (800) 645-4579
(319) 472-5221
www.iowa-braille.k12.ia.us/
Dennis Thurman, Superintendent,
dthurman@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us
Karen Blankenship, State Consultant for Visual
Disabilities, (515) 281-7972, (515) 242-6019 (Fax),
Karen.Blankenship@iowa.gov
Michael Hooley, Director of Education
Kay Jahnel, Education Program Coordinator, (319)
472-4371 (Fax), kjahnel@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us
Dianne Utsinger, Public Relations/Human Resources,
(319) 472-4371 (Fax),
dutsinger@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable Iowa's students who are blind or visually impaired to function as independently as possible in all aspects of life by providing appropriate educational opportunities, resources, and support services.

Established: 1852.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers clinical and functional vision examinations and vision screening for children who are difficult to test.

Assistive Products: Assistive Device Center.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Children's books, K-12 text books as needed, K-12 instructional materials as needed, magazine articles.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides direct educational services, including itinerant vision teaching and orientation and mobility, to students who are blind or visually impaired in local school settings throughout the state in cooperation with Area Education Agencies and the local school districts.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides state vision consulting. Provides educational consultations for classroom adaptations for low vision students. Provides technology consultations including assistive devices.

Education Services: Conducts a fully accredited K-12 school on campus in Vinton, including a residential program during the school week. Students are bussed home every weekend. Short-term placements available as well as day programs. Provides direct instruction to students throughout Iowa attending their local schools through an itinerant teaching model for both vision teaching and for orientation and mobility. Summer programs offered on campus. Parent and sibling workshops. Parent and professional workshops and inservices.

Employment: Work Experience Program available on campus during the school year.

Information and Referral: State Vision Consultant provides information to parents, professionals, paraprofessionals, related service providers, and other interested groups and individuals.

Library: Maintains a library of books in braille, large print, and audiocassette, and an instructional materials center for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Provides services at home or in a preschool classroom for visually impaired children ages birth to 5.

Recreation: Offers after-school therapeutic recreation activities; school day adaptive physical education; competitive team sports; special olympics; and a variety of summer recreational activities during summer school sessions.

Iowa Braille School Instructional Materials Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
1002 G Avenue
Vinton, IA 52349
Tel: (319) 472-5221
www.iowa-braille.k12.ia.us/library.html#quota
Dotta Hassman, IMC Coordinator,
dhassman@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Iowa.

Iowa COMPASS, Center for Disabilities and Development

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

100 Hawkins Drive
Iowa City, IA 52246-1011
Tel: (800) 331-3027
(319) 356-8777
(319) 356-8284 (Fax)
www.uiowa.edu/infotech
E-mail: infotech@uiowa.edu
Jane Gay, Director

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Provides a used-equipment referral service.

Financial Assistance: Provides information to Iowa consumers and family members about potential sources of funding for the purchase of assistive technology.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral on disability-related organizations.

Iowa Department for the Blind (IDB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

524 Fourth Street
Des Moines, IA 50309-2364
Tel: (800) 362-2587 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In-state only)
(515) 281-1333
(800) 362-2587 (TDD/TTY)
(515) 281-1355 (TDD/TTY)
(515) 281-1263 (Fax)
www.blind.state.ia.us/
E-mail: hicklin.carolyn@blind.state.ia.us

Allen C. Harris, Director, (515) 281-1334,
harris.allen@blind.state.ia.us

Curtis Chong, Program Administrator/Field Operations/Technology, (515) 281-1361, (515) 242-5781 (Fax), chong.curtis@blind.state.ia.us

Becky Criswell, Supervisor, Independent Living, (515) 281-1299, criswell.becky@blind.state.ia.us

Roger Erpelding, Program Administrator/Business Enterprises Program,
erpelding.roger@blind.state.ia.us

Karen Keninger, Program Administrator, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
keninger.karen@blind.state.ia.us

Bonnie Linquist, Supervisor/Field Operations, (515) 281-1281, (515) 242-5781 (Fax),
linquist.bonnie@blind.state.ia.us

Bruce K. Snethen, Deputy Director, (515) 281-1293, (515) 281-1395 (Fax), snethen.bruce@blind.state.ia.us

Sandra Tigges, Program Administrator/Adult Orientation and Adjustment Center, (515) 281-1313,
tigges.sandy@blind.state.ia.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: The Iowa Department for the Blind is the means for persons who are blind to obtain for themselves universal accessibility and full participation as citizens in whatever roles they may choose, including roles that improve Iowa's economic growth.

Established: 1925.

County/District where located: Polk County.

Geographic area served: Iowa.

Eligibility requirements: Any Iowan who is blind or deaf-blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Building and facilities are accessible.

Residential Facilities: Operates the Adult Orientation and Adjustment Center, a residential training program for adults who are blind.

Budget: \$10,400,000.

Clients served annually: 11,000.

Staff: 110.

Publications: White Cane Update, Transition Newsletter, Orientation Newsletter, Open Door Newsletter, Spotlight Newsletter.

Additional information: NLS Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells adapted items useful to persons who are blind or visually impaired in the Aids and Devices Store, located at the central office in Des Moines. Products for sale include white canes, braille and talking watches and clocks, braille-writing equipment, magnifiers, measuring devices, braille and large-print playing cards, games, cooking and sewing aids, and computer tutorials that teach blind computer

users how to access popular Windows applications with screen-reading programs by using keystrokes instead of the mouse. Purchases may be made in person, by phone, or through the mail.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Computer Training: Speech output systems.

Employment: Offers evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending facility training.

Information and Referral: Provides consultation and referral service in alternative media.

Library: Maintains the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, an NLS regional library providing books on disc, audiocassettes, braille and large print for people who are blind and physically handicapped in Iowa.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, industrial arts, home economics, and communication skills. Offers independent living deaf-blindness services, guidance and counseling, training and information. Offers independent living services for older blind people.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Cedar Falls: 2915 McClain Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Cedar Rapids: 411 Third Street, SE, Suite 745, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-1811

Iowa Department of Elder Affairs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

200 Tenth Street
Clemens Building, Third Floor
Des Moines, IA 50309-3609
Tel: (800) 532-3213
(515) 242-3333
(515) 242-3300 (Fax)
www.state.ia.us/elderaffairs

Mark A. Haverland, Director,
mark.haverland@iowa.gov

Greg Anliker, Policy & Administration Division
Administrator, (515) 242-3303,
greg.anliker@iowa.gov

Sherry James, Public Information Officer
Administrative Assistant, (515) 242-3302,
sherry.james@iowa.gov

Mary Ann Young, Elder Programs & Advocacy
Division Administration, (515) 242-3312,
maryann.young@iowa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide advocacy, educational, and prevention services to older Iowans so they can find Iowa a healthy, safe, productive, and enjoyable place to live and work.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Polk County.

Geographic area served: Iowa.

Eligibility requirements: Most programs: 60 plus regardless of income, except for the employment program (in which eligibility requirement is 55 plus, with low income).

Ages served: 60 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, Health/Medical, Information and Referral to older persons.

Employment: Offers job training, placement, job-seeking skills.

Health/Medical: Provides health screening, public health nursing, home health (as coordinated by AAA).

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Iowa Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1454 30th Street
Suite 204
West Des Moines, IA 50266-1312
Tel: (515) 222-5679
(515) 222-9073 (Fax)
www.iowaoptometry.org/
E-mail: iaoptassn@aol.com

Gary Ellis, Executive Director,
garye@iowaoptometry.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life of all individuals with visual impairments.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRIS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

100 East Euclid Avenue, #15
Des Moines, IA 50313
Tel: (877) 404-4747
(515) 243-6833
(515) 883-1906 (Fax)
www.iowaradioreading.org/

E-mail: info@iowaradioreading.org

Robert Davis, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Polk County.

Geographic area served: Most of Iowa.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Additional information: IRIS offers streaming audio via its web site.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from Forbes, Newsweek, and a variety of national magazines and newspapers (Des Moines Register, Cedar Rapids Gazette, Iowa City Press Citizen, Messenger, Cedar Falls Courier, New York Times, Mason City Globe Gazette).

Iowa State Department of Education: Bureau of Children, Family and Community Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency
- State educational services

Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

Tel: (515) 281-4030

(515) 242-5988 (Fax)

www.state.ia.us/educate

Judy Jeffrey, Interim Director, judy.jeffrey@iowa.gov

Karen Blankenship, Vision Consultant, Bureau of Children, Family and Community Services, (515) 281-7972, karen.blankenship@iowa.gov

Nancy Brees, Administrative Secretary, Special Education Division, nancy.brees@iowa.gov

Julie Curry, Part C Coordinator, julie.curry@iowa.gov

Mary Schertz, Consultant, Early Childhood Development, mary.schertz@iowa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer supplemental state funds for visually impaired children attending local schools.

County/District where located: Polk County.

Geographic area served: Iowa.

Eligibility requirements: All children identified and certified with visual impairments.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers psychological testing and eye health public education program.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Presents pre-braille literacy module for Every Child Reads initiative.

Computer Training: Training for instructors.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to teachers, families, and other professionals.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Iowa's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Provides consultation on educational programs.

Library: Distributes braille and large-type textbooks, tapes, and tape recorders.

Professional Training: Offers staff development program from survey of state needs.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- National Library Service library

Iowa Department for the Blind

524 Fourth Street

Des Moines, IA 50309-2364

Tel: (800) 362-2587

(515) 281-1333

(515) 281-1355 (TDD/TTY)

(515) 281-1378 (Fax)

www.blind.state.ia.us/library

E-mail: library@blind.state.ia.us

Karen Keninger, Librarian,

keninger.karen@blind.state.ia.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Education Services: Provides textbooks and related instructional materials in large print for students who are blind or visually impaired in Iowa.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Prevent Blindness Iowa

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center

1111 Ninth Street

Suite 250

Des Moines, IA 50314

Tel: (800) 329-8782 (In state only)

(515) 244-4341

(515) 244-4718 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org/iowa/

E-mail: pbiowa@netins.net

Jeanne Burmeister, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness, preserve sight and enhance and extend the quality of vision for all Iowans.

Established: 1958.

County/District where located: Polk County.

Geographic area served: Iowa.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to service-oriented clubs like Kiwanis and optometrists to identify those who would benefit from provided services.

Health/Medical: Offers vision screening at community and business events for adults and preschool children.

Information and Referral: Provides information to community concerning eye health and safety and some referral to services for people who are blind and visually impaired throughout Iowa.

Library: Full eye health and safety library.

Parent Assistance: Refers to sources of subsidization for needy, low-income eye care, including eyeglasses for preschool and school-age children.

**University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics:
Low Vision Rehabilitation Service**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

200 Hawkins Drive, 11190A PFP

University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

Iowa City, IA 52242-1091

Tel: (800) 777-8442

(319) 356-8301

(319) 353-7699 (Fax)

Mark E. Wilkinson, Director, Low Vision Rehabilitation Service, Low Vision Service,
mark-wilkinson@uiowa.edu

Patti Heitshusen, Low Vision Educator/Low Vision Rehabilitation Service, patti-heitshusen@uiowa.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive vision rehabilitation and counseling to any individual, regardless of age or other handicapping conditions, with a visual impairment.

County/District where located: Johnson County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 1500.

Staff: 2 primary, others available noted below.

Optometrist, low vision assistant, ophthalmologist, ophthalmology resident, optician, social worker, genetic counselor.

Fee structure: Financial aid available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes electronic, optical and nonoptical low vision devices. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Health/Medical: Provides comprehensive medical/surgical care in all areas.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides comprehensive low vision rehabilitation services and training in activities of daily living.

**University of Northern Iowa Teacher Training
Program for Students with Visual
Impairments**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Postsecondary institution**

150 Schindler Education Center

Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0601

Tel: (319) 273-6061

(319) 273-7852 (Fax)

www.uni.edu/

Sunggye Hong, Program Coordinator,
sunggye.hong@uni.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prepare teachers to work with students who are blind or have low vision.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Offers a bachelor's and master's degree for teachers of students with visual impairments.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central
Blind Rehabilitation Center**

See Illinois.

Kansas

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Kansas Department of Social and
Rehabilitation Services: Division of Services
for the Blind, Rehabilitation Center for the
Blind
(785) 296-3311
Kansas Department on Aging
(800) 432-3535

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Kansas Department of Health and
Environment: Infant-Toddler Program
(800) 332-6262

Educational Services

Kansas State Department of Education:
Student Support Services
(785) 291-2191

Instructional Materials Center

Kansas Instructional Resource Center
(800) 572-5463

Rehabilitation Services

Kansas Department of Social and
Rehabilitation Services: Division of Services
for the Blind, Rehabilitation Center for the
Blind
(785) 296-3311

School for the Blind

Kansas State School for the Blind
(800) 572-5463

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

American Red Cross Braille Service: Midway-Kansas
Chapter
Envision
Kansas Braille Transcription Institute
Kansas Department on Aging

Dog Guide Schools

KSDS, Inc.

Information/Referral Centers

Envision

Libraries

Kansas Talking Book Library Service, Kansas State
Library (NLS)
Manhattan Public Library, Talking Book Services (NLS)
Talking Book Service (NLS)
Talking Books Subregional Library, South Central
Kansas Library System (NLS)

Talking Books, Topeka and Shawnee County Public
Library (NLS)
Western Kansas Talking Books, Northwest Kansas
Library System (NLS)
Wichita Public Library Talking Books Section (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Envision

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Council on Rural Special Education
Kansas Optometric Association
Kansas State Ophthalmological Society

National Organizations

American Council on Rural Special Education

Radio Reading Stations

Reading Radio Services
Wichita Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Envision

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths
and Adults: Great Plains Region Office**Schools for the Blind**

Kansas State School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Tri-Valley Developmental Services

State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology for Kansans Project

American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Red Cross Braille Service: Midway-Kansas Chapter

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Alternate media producer**

P.O. Box 3726

Wichita, KS 67201

Tel: (316) 683-6706

(316) 268-0888 (Fax)

www.redcross.org/ks/wichita

Von E. Eulert, Chairperson, Braille Service,
veulert@aol.com**GENERAL INFORMATION****County/District where located:** Sedgwick County.**Geographic area served:** National.**Eligibility requirements:** Any braille reader.**Ages served:** 0 and above.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.**Accessibility:** Fully accessible, braille signage.**Funded by:** Client fees, Lions Clubs, private donations,
United Way.**Fee structure:** Call for pricing.**SERVICES OFFERED****Braille/Audio/Large Print Production:** Produces
materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).**Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational,
career/vocational, religious.

Assistive Technology for Kansans Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **State technology program**

2601 Gabriel

Parsons, KS 67357

Tel: (800) 526-3648

(620) 421-8367 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(620) 421-0954 (Fax)

www.atk.ku.edu

Sara Sack, ssack@ku.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION**Mission:** To engage in activities that are designed to
result in laws, regulations, policies, practices, or
organizational structures that promote
consumer-responsive programs that increase access to
assistive technology devices and services.**Established:** 1993.**SERVICES OFFERED****Advocacy:** Pursues a range of actions that are intended
to benefit assistive technology consumers in Kansas in a
variety of ways.**Assistive Products:** Has an Interagency Equipment
Loan System that contains a variety of devices that
people in Kansas can borrow on a trial basis, before
they purchase equipment for themselves and offers
reconditioned durable medical equipment available for
Kansans who meet the guidelines. Maintains an
Equipment Bulletin Board where consumers may
search for a broader range of items that they wish to
buy or post items they have for sale.**Information and Referral:** Provides information about
training workshops, both in Kansas and outside the
state.

Envision

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Alternate Media Producer**■ **Information/Referral Center**■ **Low Vision Center/Clinic**■ **Rehabilitation Agency**

2301 South Water

Wichita, KS 67213

Tel: (316) 267-2244 (Local)

(316) 267-4312 (Fax)

(316) 231-0057 (TDD/TTY)

www.envisionus.com

Linda Merrill, President, linda.merrill@envisionus.com

Bruce Kater, O.D., Clinical Director

Geri M McFadden, Coordinator

Sonya Bess, Rehabilitation Clinic Manager, (316)
682-4646**GENERAL INFORMATION****Established:** 1933.**Mission:** To enhance the personal independence of
individuals whose blindness, often accompanied by

other disabilities, impacts their opportunities for employment, success, and integration into community life.

County/District where located: Sedgwick County

Geographic area served: Western United States.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment of any kind, through referrals from ophthalmologists, optometrists, medical doctors or agencies.

Ages served: 0 and above

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: New facility, completely ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility

Fee structure: Sliding fee.

Publications: In Touch (quarterly newsletter)

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Low Vision to older persons.

Assessment: Offers employment and home living assessments. Evaluates clients to determine ability to use rehabilitation techniques. Tests for binocularity, contrast sensitivity, refraction (prism), scanning ability, and all regular areas of optometry. O&M evaluation, OT evaluation.

Assistive Products: Operates White Canes & More, a sensory aids store.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). Types of content: Non-technical materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides seminars throughout state and region. Hosts support groups.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Program Assistance: Offers assistive technology assessment and provides hardware sales training.

Employment: Provides occupational skill development, employment, and placement.

Low Vision: Maintains an optometric clinic that provides comprehensive low vision evaluations.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Great Plains Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4330 Shawnee Mission Parkway
Suite 108

Shawnee Mission, KS 66205-2522

Tel: (913) 677-4562 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(913) 677-0604 (TDD/TTY)

(913) 677-1544 (Fax)

www.helenkeller.org/national/

E-mail: hknc7bj@aol.com

Beth A. Jordan, Regional Representative,
hknc7bj@aol.com
Jody Searing, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Johnson County.

Geographic area served: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind and deaf.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

Residential Facilities: At New York center.

Publications: Annual newsletter for consumers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Kansas Braille Transcription Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1200 E. Waterman

Wichita, KS 67211

Tel: (316) 265-9692

(316) 265-0184 (Fax)

www.kbti.org

E-mail: info@kbti.org

Randolph Cabral, Executive Director,

randolphc@kbti.org

Alice Schoenhofer, Program Director, alices@kbti.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the personal independence and opportunities of large print and braille readers in Kansas through an innovative centralized braille transcription service.

Established: 2000.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** All kinds of materials.

Computer Training: Offers hands-on instruction in the use of adaptive computer technologies.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers professional development workshops and seminars for vision instructors and support staff throughout Kansas.

Employment: Offers training and employment opportunities for persons wanting to become certified braille transcribers or BrailleWriter repair technicians.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment: Infant-Toddler Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Part C early intervention agency**

1000 SW Jackson, Ste 220

Topeka, KS 66612-1274

Tel: (800) 332-6262 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(785) 296-6135

(785) 296-8626 (Fax)

www.kdhe.state.ks.us/its/

Carolyn S. Nelson, Director, Children's Developmental Services, Health/Bureau for Children, Youth and Families

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To identify and provide early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delay or disabilities and their families.

Established: 1992.

County/District where located: State office is located in Shawnee County.

Geographic area served: Kansas.

Eligibility requirements: Demonstrated developmental delay or disability.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: State office: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Services are community-based and provided within child/family's natural environment. Services are provided via 36 statewide community Infant-Toddler networks.

Clients served annually: 5800 served by 36 networks statewide.

Staff: Determined by service needs of each network.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to early intervention networks statewide.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Kansas's early intervention system under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services: Division of Services for the Blind, Rehabilitation Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Independent living program**

■ **State rehabilitation services**

2601 SW East Circle Drive, North
Topeka, KS 66606

Tel: (785) 296-3311

www.srskansas.org/rehab/text/RCBVI.htm

E-mail: rehab@srskansas.org

Diane Hemphill, Administrator, Services for the Blind
Dale L. Barnum, Director, Kansas Rehabilitation
Services

Bill Loebel, Coordinator, Kan-SAIL Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Kansas.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment, resident of Kansas, age 18+.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Mobile teams offer specific services throughout state.

Employment: Business Enterprise Program offers employment opportunities such as managing food service operations and operating vending stands and snack bars. Funds matched by federal funding.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills, orientation and mobility, technological services. Provides community or in-home training (communications, orientation and mobility, daily living skills) for visually impaired persons 55 and older through its Kansas Seniors Achieving Independent Living (Kan-SAIL) program.

Kansas Department on Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

■ **State unit on aging**

New England Building

503 South Kansas Avenue

Topeka, KS 66603-3404

Tel: (800) 432-3535
 (785) 296-4986
 (785) 291-3167 (TDD/TTY)
 (785) 296-0256 (Fax)
www.k4s.org/kdoa/
 E-mail: wwwmail@aging.state.ks.us
 Pamela Johnson-Betts, KDOA Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the security, dignity and independence of Kansas seniors, their families, seniors' caregivers, and all Kansans living in adult care homes.
Established: 1979.
County/District where located: Shawnee County.
Geographic area served: Kansas.
Eligibility requirements: Depends on specific program.
Ages served: 55 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: ADA compliant.
Funded by: Government grants, state funds.
Fee structure: Depends on program.
Publications: Explore Your Options (resource guide), Caregivers Guide for Alzheimers and Related Dementias, Parkinson's Guide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Housing Services, In-Home Services, Information and Referral to older persons.
Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).
Housing Services: Offers CARE assessment for appropriate nursing home placement.
In-Home Services: Provides in-home services to those over age 60.
Information and Referral: Provides information on aging services and programs. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on local aging services.

Kansas Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

Kansas State School for the Blind
 1100 State Avenue
 Kansas City, KS 66102
 Tel: (800) 572-5463 (In Kansas only)
 (913) 281-3308
 (913) 281-3104 (Fax)
www.kirc.org/
 E-mail: kirc@kssb.net
 Jackie Denk, Director, jdenk@kssb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist Kansas' public and private schools with the specialized material needs of students with visual impairments.
Established: 1969.
Geographic area served: Kansas.
Ages served: 0 to 21.
Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Budget: \$300,000.
Clients served annually: 900.
Staff: 5.
Fee structure: No fees.
Publications: KIRC News (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Braille, large print, recorded textbooks, library books and educational aids and assistive technology to teachers in the state of Kansas who work with students with visual impairments.
Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Kansas.

Kansas Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1266 SW Topeka Boulevard
 Topeka, KS 66612
 Tel: (785) 232-0225
 (785) 232-6151 (Fax)
www.kansasoptometric.org
 E-mail: info@kansasoptomteric.org
 Gary Robbins, Executive Director,
gary@kansasoptometric.org

Kansas State Department of Education: Student Support Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

120 SE 10th Avenue
 Topeka, KS 66612-1182
 Tel: (785) 291-2191 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (785) 296-6715 (Fax)
www.kansped.org/ksde/deafblind/deafblind.html
 E-mail: jcook@ksde.org
 Zo Ann Torrey, Team Director, ztorrey@ksde.org
 Alexa Pochowski, Team Leader for Student Support Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer special education programs in public and other schools.
County/District where located: Shawnee County.

Geographic area served: Kansas.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 150+.

Staff: 2.5.

Additional information: A division of the Kansas State Board of Education.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Oversees administration of special education programs and programs for children who are blind or visually impaired in Kansas. Also administers federal and state deaf-blind funds for Kansas residents.

Kansas State Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

700 SW Jackson, Suite 705

Topeka, KS 66603

Tel: (785) 234-9719

(785) 234-9718 (Fax)

www.kseyemd.org/contact.html

E-mail: ksos@amycampbell.com

Amy Campbell, Executive Director,
amy@amycampbell.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Shawnee County.

Publications: Newsletter.

Kansas State School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1100 State Avenue

Kansas City, KS 66102

Tel: (800) 572-5463 (Kansas only)

(913) 281-3308

(913) 281-3104 (Fax)

www.kssb.net

E-mail: supt@kssb.net

William Daugherty, Superintendent,
bdaugherty@kssb.net

Madeleine Burkindine, Principal, (913) 321-4708 (Fax),
mburkindine@kssb.net

Jacqueline Denk, Coordinator, Instructional Materials Center,
jdenk@kssb.net

Virgene Tyrrell, Contact Person, Outreach Director,
vtyrrell@kssb.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve all blind and visually impaired Kansans, from birth to age 21. To empower students with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills needed to assume responsible roles in society and to lead fulfilling lives.

Established: 1867.

County/District where located: Wyandotte County.

Geographic area served: Kansas.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, blind, deaf-blind, including students with multiple disabilities.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities (dormitories) available Mon.-Fri., closed on weekends.

Staff: 93 full-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No fees to Kansas parents except for modest activity fee. Minimal charge to local school districts requesting outreach evaluations and for summer program.

Additional information: Contact local school superintendent for program availability.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Evaluates preferable literacy media, literacy skill development.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille).

Community Outreach Programs: Sends speakers to address school groups, college classes, community groups and provide information about educational issues of concern to teachers and parents of blind or visually impaired students.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consultations and evaluations provided statewide to students who are visually impaired or blind. Provides consultation to outside agencies working with blind/visually impaired students. Provides information and support for teachers.

Counseling: Offers psychological testing, licensed clinical social work and evaluation, individual, group, family/parent, counseling, referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers preschool through grade 12, programs for general academics to students who are blind or visually impaired. Coordinates, catalogs, produces, stores, and distributes educational materials needed by children who are blind or visually impaired.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and vocational skill development and refers for vocational placement and follow-up service.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Offers program for children ages 3 - 5 years.

Professional Training: Offers internships/fieldwork placement and regular in-service training programs and short-term or summer training programs.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, bowling, swimming, track, wrestling, goal ball. Provides consultation to other agencies for some recreation services.

Rehabilitation: Provides or refers for vocational rehabilitation and training in compensatory blindness skills.

Kansas Talking Book Library Service, Kansas State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

ESU Memorial Union
1200 Commercial Box 4055
Emporia, KS 66801

Tel: (800) 362-0699 (Toll-free in Kansas)
(620) 343-7124
(620) 343-7124 (Fax)

www.kslib.info/talking

Toni Harrell, Regional Librarian, tonih@kslib.info

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and magazines in braille and recorded format and playback equipment to any Kansas resident unable to use standard print materials because of a visual or physical impairment.

Geographic area served: Kansas.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Public funds.

Staff: 5.

Publications: Talking Book Update (Quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

KSDS, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

124 West Seventh
Washington, KS 66968
Tel: (785) 325-2256

(785) 325-2258 (Fax)

www.ksds.org

E-mail: ksds@washingtonks.net

Karen Price, CEO

Deb Tegethoff, Training Instructor,
ksds@washingtonks.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence and inclusion of people with disabilities as fully participating and contributing members of their communities and society.

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Washington County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, Iowa, Oklahoma, Texas, North Dakota, South Dakota.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 20.

Staff: 9.

Fee structure: \$25.00 Application Fee.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training. Assists with dog guide placements.

Manhattan Public Library, Talking Book Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

629 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502-6086

Tel: (800) 432-2796 (Toll free in Kansas)
(785) 776-4741

(785) 776-1545 (Fax)

www.manhattan.lib.ks.us/bph.html

Ann Pearce, Librarian, annp@manhattan.lib.ks.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Riley.

Geographic area served: Chase, Clay, Dickinson, Geary, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, Morris, Pottawatomie, Riley, Wabaunsee, and Washington Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 3 to 102.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Clients served annually: 830.

Staff: 5.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Library Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Mounts exhibits, offers workshops for schools, nursing homes, hospitals, programs for service and social groups.

Computer Training: The Assistive Technology Center provides training for those with disabilities in the use of assistive technology. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Screen reader systems.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to agencies serving persons with print disabilities and vision loss.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Has a large-print and talking book collection available to nursing homes.

Reading Radio Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

815 North Walnut St, Ste 300

Hutchinson, KS 67501

Tel: (620) 662-6646

E-mail: webmaster@radiokansas.org

Rosemary Sayers, Director, rsayers@radiokansas.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: To receive special pre-tuned receiver, must be visually impaired or otherwise impeded in reading. Application required.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Provides radio reading services to six-city market in Kansas including Hutchinson, Wichita, Salina, Manhattan, Great Bend, Hays. Local and national programming includes news, travel and leisure, women's interest, business, health, entertainment, book reviews, sports, gourmet cooking, outdoor interests. Publications read include the Hutchinson News, Wichita Eagle, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Washington Post, Village Voice.

Talking Book Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

CKLS Headquarters

1409 Williams Street

Great Bend, KS 67530

Tel: (800) 362-2642

(620) 792-2393

(620) 792-5495 (Fax)

Joanita Doll-Masden, Librarian, jmasden@ckls.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Barton, Cloud, Ellis, Ellsworth, Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, Ottawa, Pawnee, Phillips, Republic, Rooks, Rush, Russeel, Saline, and Smith counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides books on audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Books Subregional Library, South Central Kansas Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

901 North Main Street

Hutchinson, KS 67501

Tel: (800) 234-0529 (Toll free in Kansas)

(620) 663-5441

(620) 663-1215 (Fax)

www.skyways.lib.ks.us/sckls/

Karen S. Socha, Librarian, ksocha@sckls.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Barber, Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, Kiowa, McPherson, Pratt, Reno, Rice, Stafford, and Sumner Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals who are blind or have visual impairment or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides large-print books, and audiocassettes for visually impaired, blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Books, Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1515 SW 10th Avenue

Topeka, KS 66604-1374

Tel: (800) 432-2925 (Toll free in Kansas)

(785) 580-4530

(785) 580-4544 (TDD/TTY)

(785) 580-4430 (Fax)

www.tscpl.org/services/talkingbooks/index.asp
 E-mail: tbooks@tscpl.lib.ks.us
 Suzanne Bundy, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Shawnee.
Geographic area served: Atchinson, Brown, Doniphan, Douglas, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Nemaha, Osage, Shawnee, and Wyandotte Counties.
Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Funded by: Endowments, government grants, private donations, state funds.
Clients served annually: 2400.
Staff: 7.
Fee structure: Services free to those eligible.
Publications: Newsletters, bibliographies.
Additional information: Subregional library of the NLS/BPH Network.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.
Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Tri-Valley Developmental Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

3740 South Santa Fe
 Chanute, KS 66720
 Tel: (620) 431-7401
 (620) 431-1409 (Fax)
 www.tvds.org/
 E-mail: trivalley@tvds.org
 Maury Thompson, Executive Director
 Alene C. Jolly, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer a wide range of choices, meeting individual needs, and provide opportunities for persons with disabilities to maximize their potential enabling them to achieve the quality of community life they seek.
Established: 1974.
Geographic area served: Allen, Bourbon, Neosho, and Woodson Counties.
Staff: 3 full-time; psychologist, various therapists, O&M specialist available on consultation basis. Uses volunteers. Advisory board with parent members.

Fee structure: The cost of services varies. Most services are covered through state and federal funding while others are arranged on a fee-for-service basis.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers parent counseling.
Employment: Offers vocational skill building, placement, and on-the-job training.
Transportation: Provides transportation to persons with disabilities for getting to work, to medical appointments, for attending recreational activities, etc.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Western Kansas Talking Books, Northwest Kansas Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2 Washington Square
 Norton, KS 67654
 Tel: (800) 432-2858 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Toll free in Kansas)
 (785) 877-5148 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (785) 877-5697 (Fax)
 www.skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/nwkl/s/howard/bph.html
 E-mail: tbook@ruraltel.net
 Clarice I. Howard, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Norton County.
Geographic area served: Cheyenne, Clark, Comanche, Decatur, Edwards, Finney, Ford, Gove, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Haskell, Hodgeman, Kearny, Lane, Logan, Meade, Morton, Ness, Norton, Rawlin, Scott, Seward, Sheridan, Sherman, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, Trego, Wallace, and Wichita Counties.
Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, bathroom accessibility.
Publications: Western Kansas Whirlwind.
Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Wichita Public Library Talking Books Section

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ National Library Service library**

223 South Main
Wichita, KS 67202
Tel: (800) 362-2869 (Toll free in Kansas)
(316) 261-8500
(316) 262-3972 (TDD/TTY)
(316) 262-4540 (Fax)
www.wichita.lib.ks.us
Brad Reha, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Sedgwick County.

Geographic area served: Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Coffey, Crawford, Elk, Greenwood, Labette, Linn, Montgomery, Neosho, Sedgwick, Wilson, and Woodson Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Wichita Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Radio reading station**

3317 East 17th
Wichita, KS 67208
Tel: (316) 978-6600
www.kmuw.org/
Pat V. Hayes, Program Supervisor/Coordinator, (316) 978-7171, (316) 978-3946 (Fax), hayes@kmuw.org
Bridget Jones, Coordinator, jones@kmuw.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve people who are print-handicapped in Southcentral Kansas.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Sedgwick County.

Geographic area served: 60-mile radius of Wichita, covering southcentral Kansas.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Clients served annually: 2,000 plus.

Staff: One full-time and some part-time Wichita State University students.

Fee structure: Receivers are loaned free of charge to applicants who qualify.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from books, newspapers (Wichita Eagle, USA Today), magazines, and other sources of information.

Kentucky

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Kentucky Office for the Blind: Independent Living Services
(800) 346-2115

Kentucky Office of Aging Services
(502) 564-6930

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Kentucky Department for Public Health: First Steps
(800) 442-0087

Educational Services

Kentucky Department of Education: Division of Exceptional Children Services
(502) 564-4970

Instructional Materials Center

Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center
(502) 897-1583

Rehabilitation Services

Kentucky Office for the Blind
(800) 321-6668

School for the Blind

Kentucky School for the Blind
(502) 897-1583

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Audio Studio for the Reading Impaired
Career Visions
Kentucky Accessible Materials Consortium
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Kentucky Unit

Educational Agencies

Jefferson County Public Schools: Exceptional Child Education Program

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Visually Impaired Preschool Services

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Kentucky

Libraries

Kentucky Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
Louisville Talking Book Library (NLS)
Northern Kentucky Talking Book Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Low Vision Services of Kentucky

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Kentucky Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
Kentucky Optometric Association

National Publishers

American Printing House for the Blind

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Louisville: Department of Teaching and Learning

Radio Reading Stations

Central Kentucky Radio Eye

Rehabilitation Agencies

Career Visions
University of Kentucky: Deaf-Blind Project

Schools for the Blind

Kentucky School for the Blind

American Printing House for the Blind (APH)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Audio Studio for the Reading Impaired**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Alternate media producer**

11403 Park Road
 Anchorage, KY 40223
 Tel: (502) 245-5422
 (502) 245-5422 (Fax)
 www.audio-studio.org
 E-mail: director@audio-studio.org
 William M. Huff, Chairman, (502) 228-3951,
 wimih@aol.com
 Betty K. Zielinski, Studio Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To record printed material for anyone physically unable to read standard print or unable to hold a book or for anyone with learning disabilities.
Established: 1968.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.
Geographic area served: United States and Canada.
Eligibility requirements: Physical or learning disability.

Ages served: 6 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-3:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Budget: \$52,000.

Clients served annually: 700.

Staff: 3. 90 volunteers in addition to staff.

Fee structure: \$20 recording fee if 2 copies of printed material provided, \$10 recording fee if 1 copy of printed material provided, \$1 fee for each cassette.

Publications: Newsletter (semiannual).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Any printed material in English.

Reading Services: Offers radio reading services. Publications include the Louisville Courier Journal, The Cats' Pause, and University of Louisville Sports Report.

AFFILIATE OFFICES

Louisville: Repair Facility, KY School for the Blind, 1867 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206

State Technology Programs

Kentucky Assistive Technology Service Network

Career Visions**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Alternate media producer**■ **Rehabilitation agency**

2632 South Third Street
 Louisville, KY 40208
 Tel: (502) 636-0525 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Advanced notice required for TTY access.)
 (502) 636-0424 (Fax)
 www.careervisionsinc.com
 E-mail: administrator@careervisionsinc.com
 Mary M. Phillips, Executive Director, (502) 893-1870,
 (502) 893-1844 (Fax), mary@careervisionsinc.com
 April S. Croslin, Development Director, (502) 893-1870,
 (502) 893-1844 (Fax), april@careervisionsinc.com
 Mellanie Murphy, Intake Service Coordinator
 Maurice Phillips, Employment Specialist
 David Roque, Employment Specialist
 Liz Sanchez, Direct Services Administrator
 Betsy Wall, Employment Team Coordinator,
 Employment, (502) 893-1870, (502) 893-1844 (Fax),
 betsyw@careervisionsinc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services resulting in the successful and long-term competitive employment of people with disabilities or other barriers to employment.

Established: 1992.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Kentucky and Southern Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Documented disability.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Fri. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facility.

Fee structure: Per contract.

Publications: Career Visions (newsletter), brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training to older persons.

Assessment: Provides employment skills, computer skills, and environmental accessibility assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Company training/instructional manuals, schedules, restaurant menus and others.

Computer Training: Has computer training and other services available to elderly people who are blind or visually impaired. Database software, screen

magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing, refreshable braille, HTML coding/web design, Internet navigation.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to employers of blind/visually impaired.

Employment: Offers competitive and supported employment services, job site assessment, on-the-job training, pre-employment services, environmental accessibility evaluation.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services relating to employment of persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Reading Services: Reading of local newspaper employment ads weekly at free employment support group.

Central Kentucky Radio Eye (CKRE)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

Central Kentucky Radio Eye

University Station Box 1030

Lexington, KY 40506

Tel: (859) 257-2702

www.uky.edu/Libraries/CKRE/

E-mail: CKREweb@lsv.uky.edu

Margaret Chase, Chairwoman and Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To broadcast the reading of newspapers and other printed material to those individuals who cannot see to read or cannot turn or hold a page due to a physical impairment.

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Fayette County.

Geographic area served: CKRE's 24-hour radio broadcast is available in Central Kentucky, including Lexington and Fayette County. CKRE's 2-hour cable TV broadcast of the reading of the Lexington Herald-Leader is available on Lexington Insight Cable Ch 20: 8:00 AM-10 AM Mon.-Sat.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired people; physically handicapped who cannot hold or turn a page because of MS, Parkinson's disease, stroke, arthritis. Completed application signed by a physician or other professional required.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Office hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 AM-1:00 PM; Sat.-Sun. 9:00-12 noon. Radio Broadcast: 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 1,500 to 2,000.

Staff: 2. Executive Director and Studio Manager.

Fee structure: The 24-hour Radio Reading Service is free of charge. Special radios needed to hear the closed-circuit broadcast are free of charge. A one time

\$25 user fee is requested. Anyone unable to pay is still eligible to apply for a radio and receive free service.

Publications: Radio Eye (quarterly newsletter); CKRE Information Brochure; CKRE Annual Program Guide.

Additional information: CKRE radio service is not available on a regular radio. CKRE provides eligible listeners with special pre-tuned radios free of charge on which they tune into CKRE's private 24-hour broadcast. CKRE is a member of IAAIS (International Association of Audio and Information Services).

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Every morning CKRE volunteers read verbatim local newspapers and magazines including the Lexington Herald-Leader, Louisville Courier-Journal and other regional newspapers, magazines and much more. In the afternoons and evenings, CKRE broadcasts the reading of national newspapers and magazines, including The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Newsweek, Readers Digest, and publications through CKRE's affiliation with a satellite feed from New York.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

Jefferson County Public Schools: Exceptional Child Education Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

3332 Newburg Road

Louisville, KY 40203

Tel: (502) 485-3011

(502) 485-6317 (Fax)

www.jefferson.k12.ky.us/Programs/ECE/welcome.html

Sharon Davis, Executive Director

Jan Mosely, Specialist, Visually Impaired

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a high-quality education for the student with disabilities.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses any child, ages 3 to 21 years, if he or she is suspected of having a disability.

Community Outreach Programs: Attempts to identify blind or visually impaired K-12 age students in need of specific educational services.

Information and Referral: Provides information about education of blind or visually impaired students and refers to community resources.

Library: Provides library services to blind or visually impaired students in public schools in Jefferson County. Formats include braille, large print and some recorded items.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides parents with information about the special-education process and the programs available.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training for teachers of blind or visually impaired children.

Kentucky Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

9959 Allisonville Road

Fishers, IN 46038

Tel: (866) 328-0554 (Local)

(317) 578-7718 (Fax)

www.kyeyemds.org

E-mail: Help@amplus.us

Kimberley Williams, Executive Director,
kim@amplus.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and advance the science and art of medicine and surgery. To provide convenient and quality care to our patients and to the citizens of Kentucky.

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Kentucky Accessible Materials Consortium (KAMC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

University of Louisville

College of Education and Human Resources

Room 158

Louisville, KY 40292

Tel: (502) 852-2546

(502) 852-1419 (Fax)

www.kamc.louisville.edu/kyecontent/

Karen Ender, Director, karen.ender@louisville.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: Students with a documented print disability in their IEP or 504 Plans.

Additional information: KAMC serves as an interagency source for accessible digital materials, benefiting not just those agencies covered by state legislation (Kentucky Department of Education and all postsecondary institutions) but also other agencies who serve individuals whose disability limits their access to printed materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Serves as a state repository for accessible materials and works with publishers on compliance with KY accessibility legislation and preparation and provision of digital files.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Converts non-copyrighted text or electronic materials to an accessible format.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training and technical assistance to member agency staff on accessible technology tools and use of accessible content.

Kentucky Assistive Technology Service Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Charles McDowell Center

8412 Westport Road

Louisville, KY 40242

Tel: (800) 327-5287

(502) 327-5287

(502) 327-9974 (Fax)

www.katsnet.org

E-mail: katsnet@iglou.com

J. Chase Forrester, Director

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Helps coordinate the implementation of statewide capacity building and advocacy initiatives regarding the availability of assistive technology.

Kentucky Department of Public Health: First Steps

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

275 East Main Street

Frankfort, KY 40621

Tel: (800) 442-0087

(502) 564-3756

www.chfs.ky.gov/dph/firststeps.htm

Germaine O'Connell, Acting Part C Coordinator,
germaine.o'connell@ky.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop a compelling vision of the future for children birth to three years of age with disabilities and their families by ongoing strategic planning for the vision; communicating the vision; advocating for the vision; and sustained attention to the performance measures, which ensures the vision's implementation.

Eligibility requirements: Children birth to three years of age with disabilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Kentucky's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Kentucky Department of Education: Division of Exceptional Children Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ State educational services**

500 Mero Street
Capital Plaza Towers
Room 801

Frankfort, KY 40601

Tel: (502) 564-4970

(502) 564-6721 (Fax)

www.education.ky.gov

Judy Mallory, Director, jmallory@kde.state.ky.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure for each child an internationally superior education and love of learning through visionary leadership, vigorous stewardship and alliance with schools, school districts, and other partnerships.

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: It's a Matter of Principle (newsletter).
Your Child's Education, Parents Rights, IEP (brochures).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Computer Training: Training for instructors.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to school districts, parents, and the general public. Assists school personnel in appraising needs of visually handicapped children and in developing appropriate education programs.

Counseling: Offers counseling services for parents, local agencies, and schools.

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Early Intervention: Offers early intervention services through Visually Impaired Preschool Services (Steps, First Steps).

Education Services: Assists school personnel in appraising needs of visually handicapped children and in developing appropriate education programs.

Information and Referral: Refers to health services available through Division of Program Resources.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to parents through Family Resource Youth Services Center.

Personnel Preparation: Offers distance education through Kentucky Telelink Network.

Professional Training: Offers Teacher Traineeship Program.

Reading Services: The Lexington Herald, the Courier Journal.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation services.

Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

Kentucky School for the Blind

1867 Frankfort Avenue

Louisville, KY 40206

Tel: (502) 897-1583

(502) 897-2994 (Fax)

www.ksb.k12.ky.us/kimrc.htm

Cathy Johnson, Director, cjohnson@ksb.k12.ky.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides specialized materials such as braille and large print textbooks, and educational aids, such as braille writers, four-track recorder/players, and other specialized materials to Kentucky students who are blind and visually impaired.

Kentucky Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ National Library Service library**

300 Coffee Tree Road

Frankfort, KY 40602-0818

Tel: (800) 372-2968 (Toll-free in Kentucky)

(502) 564-8300

(502) 564-5773 (Fax)

www.kdla.ky.gov/collectionsktbl.htm

E-mail: ktbl.mail@ky.gov

Richard Feindel, Librarian, Field Services,
richard.feindel@kdla.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1968.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Public funds.

Clients served annually: 3,700.

Staff: 10. 10 full-time equivalents.

Fee structure: All services are free.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Kentucky Office for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State rehabilitation services

209 St. Clair Street, P.O. Box 757

Frankfort, KY 40602-0757

Tel: (800) 321-6668 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(502) 564-4754 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(502) 564-2929 (TDD/TTY)

(502) 564-2951 (Fax)

www.blind.ky.gov

Stephen M. Johnson, Executive Director,

Stephen.Johnson@ky.gov

Bryan Coleman, Assistant Director, Kentucky Business Enterprises, BryanE.Colman@ky.gov

Barbara Miller, Director, Consumer Services, (270)

746-7479, (270) 746-7481 (Fax), Barbara.Miller@ky.gov

Gay Pannell, VR Administrator, Independent Living Services, (800) 222-1215, (270) 746-7479 (Fax),

Gay.Pannell@ky.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals with visual disabilities so they may improve their opportunities for employment and become more independent and productive in the community and workplace.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Franklin.

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Residential Facilities: Charles W. McDowell Rehabilitation Center.

Clients served annually: 2,718 (Includes VR and IL).

Staff: 107.

Publications: Monthly newsletter and annual reports.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Performs vocational and personal adjustment assessments.

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision devices and activities of daily living devices.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers adult education and GED training at McDowell Center. Provides training in the use of braille.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, braille displays.

Counseling: Offers rehabilitation counseling.

Employment: Provides evaluation, work experience, pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational placement, follow-up services. Administers the Kentucky Business Enterprises, which trains and certifies Kentuckians who are legally blind and licenses them to operate vending and other food service facilities.

Information and Referral: Provides information regarding blindness-related services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training in orientation and mobility.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in the use of assistive devices, braille and advocacy. Offers independent living services for seniors across the state.

LOCAL OFFICES

Ashland: 1405 Greenup Avenue, Suite 238, Ashland, KY 41101

Bowling Green: 400 East Main Street, Suite 302, Bowling Green, KY 42101

Elizabethtown: 409 North Miles Street, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Florence: 8020 Veterans Memorial Drive #100, Florence, KY 41042

Lexington: 153 Patchen Drive, Suite 17, Lexington, KY 40517

Louisville: 8412 Westport Road, Louisville, KY 40242

Owensboro: 3000 Alvey Park Dr., West, Owensboro, KY 42303

Paducah: 220 North Eighth Street, Suite E, Paducah, KY 42001

Prestonsburg: 16 Bingham Street, Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Somerset: 650 North Main Street, Gateway Center, Suite 240, Somerset, KY 42501

Kentucky Office for the Blind: Independent Living Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

8412 Westport Road
Louisville, KY 40242

Tel: (800) 346-2115

(502) 327-6010

(502) 327-9620 (Fax)

www.blind.ky.gov

Jo Coffey, Independent Living Services Assistant,
sirena.coffey@ky.gov
Gay Pannell, Administrator, gay.pannell@ky.gov
Jenny C. Tyree, Access Technology, jenny.tyree@ky.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Library: Has a library of resources available to staff, consumers, employers, and other interested individuals on various subjects such as eye diseases and their impact, accessibility, and employment. Some materials available in braille, audiocassettes, and videotapes.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in the use of assistive devices and technology. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and over.

Kentucky Office of Aging Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

275 East Main Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
Tel: (502) 564-6930
(502) 564-4595 (Fax)
www.chs.ky.gov/aging/
Bill Cooper, Division Director, bill.cooper@ky.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Information and Referral to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation, technical assistance, program assessment, evaluation, monitoring, area plan approval to fifteen Area Agencies on Aging regarding service program development and implementation.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Kentucky Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

514 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40602
Tel: (502) 875-3516
(502) 875-3782 (Fax)
www.kyeyes.org
E-mail: info@kyeyes.org
Darlene Eakin, Executive Director,
darleneeakin@kyeyes.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote, advance, and insure the viability of the practice of optometry for the benefit of its members and the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and to ensure that the voice of optometry is heard.

Established: 1902.

Geographic area served: Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Kentucky School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1867 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
Tel: (502) 897-1583 (For academic programs. Ext. 232 for statewide outreach services.)
(502) 897-2994 (Fax)
www.ksb.k12.ky.us
Kathy Jones, Administrator/Manager,
kajones@ksb.k12.ky.us
Barbara Bunuan, Director, Instructional Materials Resource, Parent Resource Centers & Braille Production, Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center, bbunuan@ksb.k12.ky.us
Patti Dilg, Early Childhood Coordinator,
pdilg@ksb.k12.ky.us
Cathy Johnson, Director, Kentucky Instructional and Diagnostic Services, cjohnson@ksb.k12.ky.us
Cloyd Oaks, Director, Residential Services, Residential Services Branch, coaks@ksb.k12.ky.us
Rick Ricks, Dean of Students, (502) 897-1593,
rricks@ksb.k12.ky.us
Adam Ruschival, Manager, Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center, aruschiv@ksb.k12.ky.us
Jeanette Wicker, Principal, Instructional Services, Instructional Branch, jwicker@ksb.k12.ky.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive educational services to all Kentucky students who are blind and visually impaired, birth to 21.

Established: 1842.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.
Geographic area served: Kentucky.
Eligibility requirements: Blind and visually impaired school-age children who are residents of Kentucky.
Ages served: 0 to 21.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.
Accessibility: Handicap accessible.
Residential Facilities: Supervised living areas for students.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses individual needs of blind and visually impaired students.
Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation, technical assistance, and educational assessments for local schools in Kentucky.
Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services for at-risk children, birth-5 years of age.
Education Services: Offers programs from K through 12.
Library: Lends braille and large-print textbooks and educational aids to Kentucky school districts that serve blind and visually impaired students.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.
Parent Assistance: Maintains a parent resource center.
Professional Training: Offers fieldwork opportunities and training opportunities for personnel work, with children birth-5 years of age.
Recreation: Offers after-school activities. Provides leisure counseling and training in recreational skills.
Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, orientation and mobility, independent living, job skills, transition activities.

Louisville Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

301 West York Street
 Louisville, KY 40203
 Tel: (502) 574-1625
 (502) 574-1621 (TDD/TTY)
 (502) 574-1657 (Fax)
www.lfpl.org/tbl.htm
 Nan Curnutt, Librarian, nan@lfpl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.
County/District where located: Jefferson.
Geographic area served: Metro-Louisville which coincides with Jefferson County, Ky.
Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Accessible.
Clients served annually: 1400.
Staff: 8.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Read On (monthly newsletter).

Additional information: Subregional library of the National Library Service Talking Book program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.
Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Provides information and referral services typically provided by public libraries.

Low Vision Services of Kentucky

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

120 North Eagle Creek
 Suite 501
 Lexington, KY 40509
 Tel: (859) 977-1129
 (859) 263-3757 (Fax)
www.retinaky.com
 E-mail: retvitky@msn.com
 Jeanne VanArsdall, Director
 Diana Holcomb, Low Vision Specialist
 Rick D. Isernhagen, M.D., Clinical Director
 William J. Wood, M.D., Clinical Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.
County/District where located: Fayette County.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.
Eligibility requirements: Ophthalmology/optometry referral.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.
Staff: Ophthalmologists, ophthalmic assistant/technician, low vision assistant/specialist available for consultation or referral. Registered nurse, social worker, rehabilitation counselor, audiologist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Northern Kentucky Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

502 Scott Boulevard
 Covington, KY 41011
 Tel: (866) 491-7610 (Toll free in Kentucky)
 (859) 962-4095 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (859) 962-4060 (TDD/TTY)
 (859) 962-4096 (Fax)
www.kenton.lib.ky.us/information/talking.html
 E-mail: nktml@kenton.lib.ky.us
 Keith Sanders, Supervisor, ksanders@kenton.lib.ky.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Kenton County.

Geographic area served: Boone, Campbell, Carrol, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen, and Pendleton Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Ramps, braille signage, accessible elevator.

Staff: 1 full-time, 2-3 part-time, and volunteer.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in health fairs and community sign-ups to provide general education to the community.

Computer Training: Speech output systems. Provides training in basic library searching strategies and instruction in use of assistive technology computer to provide information access.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Advises libraries on general accessibility issues, print disabilities, and accessibility of web sites.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Prevent Blindness Kentucky

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Information/referral center**

117 Coral Avenue

Louisville, KY 40206-2017

Tel: (800) 828-1179 (Only in Kentucky)

(502) 895-8899

(502) 895-3166 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org

E-mail: lrepperson@aol.com

LuAnn Epperson, Executive Director, lrepperson@aol

Stacy Breland, Community Services Manager,
smbreland@aol

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness through a variety of public information, educational, training, screening and eye care programs.

Established: 1954.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Ages served: 1 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Budget: \$125,000.

Clients served annually: 95,000.

Staff: 2. Paid staff conducts Photoscreening Program and trains and manages large volunteer base for Children and Adult Screenings.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Offers vision screening services.

Information and Referral: Provides general information about blindness and visual impairment to the public.

Professional Training: Provides training for vision screeners.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Kentucky Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Alternate media producer**

240 Haldeman Avenue

Louisville, KY 40206

Tel: (502) 895-9068

(502) 897-1145 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: info@rfbd.org

Martha M. Brown, Executive Director,

mbrown@rfbd.org

Joel Redle, Studio Director, jredle@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: Anderson, Bourbon, Bullitt, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Jefferson, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Nelson, Oldham, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Washington, and Woodford and Clark County, Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-8:00 PM; Sat. 7:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Budget: \$250,000.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 7. Executive Director, Outreach Director, Studio Director, Studio Associates.

Fee structure: See www.rfbd.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Library Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

University of Kentucky: Deaf-Blind Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Rehabilitation agency**

229 Taylor Education Building
University of Kentucky

Lexington, KY 40506

Tel: (859) 257-3730

(859) 257-3835 (Fax)

www.uky.edu

E-mail: kydeaf1@kfb.k12.ky.us

Diane Haynes, Training Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide consultation and technical assistance to persons who are deaf-blind (birth to 22 years of age), their families, and educational programs that serve them.

Geographic area served: Kentucky.

Eligibility requirements: Vision and hearing impairments in combination.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Staff: Therapists, medical specialists, teachers of visually impaired children, O&M specialists.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance to educational programs for infants, children, and youth who are deaf-blind.

Education Services: Offers intensive consultant services for early-childhood education of deaf-blind children.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services for deaf-blind persons to state and community educational and rehabilitative resources.

Parent Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance to families of deaf-blind children, birth to 22 years of age. Advisory board with parent members.

Professional Training: Offers seminars and summer institute for professionals.

Rehabilitation: Provides consultation in orientation and mobility.

LOCAL OFFICES

Louisville: 1867 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206

University of Louisville: Department of Teaching and Learning

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Postsecondary institution**

2301 South Third Street

Louisville, KY 40292

Tel: (502) 852-6421

(502) 852-1497 (Fax)

www.louisville.edu/edu/edsp/distance/programs/vi/index.html

William Penrod, Assistant Professor,
wpenrod@louisville.edu

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Graduate Studies in Special Education for Visual Impairment Certification (K-4, 5-8, or 9-12). Offers certification or training in the area of visual impairment. Offers courses delivered through on-line instruction consisting of text, video, video slide narration, chat room, e-mail, forum, testing, library services, as well as on-campus content and methods courses towards national certification in orientation and mobility.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Visually Impaired Preschool Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Infant/preschool agency**

1229 Garvin Place

Louisville, KY 40203

Tel: (888) 636-8477

(502) 636-3207

(502) 636-0024 (Fax)

www.vips.org

E-mail: info@vips.org

Sharon G. Bensinger, Executive Director,
sharonb@vips.org

Melinda Atkins, Education Coordinator,
melindaa@vips.org

Carol Dahmke, Office Manager, info@vips.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer appropriate services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who are visually impaired and to their families that maximize each child's developmental potential through direct services, advocacy, and community education.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Geographic area served: 50-mile radius of Louisville (including Southern Indiana). VIPS-Central Kentucky branch services Lexington and surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, multiply handicapped.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Budget: \$800,000.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 17. 13 full-time, 4 part-time.

Publications: Can Do! (video series), Visability Parent Newsletter (bimonthly), also available online.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers functional vision assessments, and Orientation and Mobility assessments.

Assistive Products: Can DO! video series. Products for sale on site and online.

Community Outreach Programs: Does birth to age 3 statewide outreach and provides consultation to local early intervention programs.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultant services to other programs available throughout Kentucky on a limited basis.

Counseling: Provides parent education and support.

Early Intervention: Provides home-based early intervention for birth to age 3 population. Also offer Parent/Infant classes.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent/infant classes, in-home early intervention, day care/preschool consultation, parent support group, bi-monthly parent newsletter.

Preschool: Offers preschool enrichment program and itinerant services on contractual basis to local school districts.

Recreation: Offers family retreat weekend, family outings, field trips.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Lexington: 161 Burt Rd, Ste 4, Lexington, KY 40503, vipslex@vips.org

Louisiana

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Louisiana Department of Social Services:
Rehabilitation Services
(800) 737-2958

Louisiana Office of Elderly Affairs
(225) 342-7100

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Early Steps, Louisiana's Early Intervention
System
(504) 599-1072

Educational Services

Louisiana Department of Education: Division
of Special Populations
(225) 342-3633

Instructional Materials Center

Louisiana Instructional Materials Center for
the Blind and Visually Impaired
(225) 219-1686

Rehabilitation Services

Louisiana Department of Social Services:
Rehabilitation Services
(800) 737-2958

School for the Blind

Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired
(225) 342-8694

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Information/Referral Centers

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Lighthouse for the Blind in New Orleans

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Affiliated Blind of Louisiana
Lighthouse for the Blind in New Orleans

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Affiliated Blind of Louisiana
Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of America

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists
Louisiana Ophthalmology Association
Louisiana State Association of Optometrists

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Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists
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WRBH 88.3 FM Reading Radio

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Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired

State Technology Programs

Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network

Affiliated Blind of Louisiana

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

409 West St. Mary Boulevard
Lafayette, LA 70506
Tel: (800) 319-4444
(337) 234-6492
(337) 264-9259 (TDD/TTY)
(337) 232-4244 (Fax)
www.affiliatedblind.org

Lynn Blanchard, Executive Director,
lynnb@affiliatedblind.org
Kevin Monk, Program Director,
kevinm@affiliatedblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To teach individuals who are blind and deaf-blind the skills that lead to independence, employment, and community integration.
Established: 1983.
County/District where located: USA.
Geographic area served: Louisiana.
Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind. Requires certification from medical doctor.
Ages served: 18 to 120.
Hours of operation: 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.
Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.
Residential Facilities: Full-time residential services available.
Clients served annually: 300.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.
Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille. As an alternative to those who have difficulty in feeling braille, 'Fishburn' is offered.
Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, note-taking devices.
Counseling: Offers counseling services to blind or visually impaired clients.
Employment: Offers vocational training program, job skills, interview skills, transition.
Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training including training for individuals in wheelchairs.
Rehabilitation: Provides training in skills of daily living, cooking, personal management, communications, braille. Operates Project Cope, a home/community based service for blind or visually impaired seniors over 55.

Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists (CLAO)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Early Steps, Louisiana's Early Intervention System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency

325 Loyola Avenue, Room 605
New Orleans, LA 70112
Tel: (504) 599-1072
(504) 599-1082 (Fax)
www.oph.dhh.state.la.us/childrensspecial/
earlyinterventionservices/index.html
Nichole Dupree, Program Manager 1,
nmdupree@dhh.la.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Louisiana.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Louisiana's Early Intervention System as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: South Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Texas.

Lighthouse for the Blind in New Orleans

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

123 State Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
Tel: (888) 792-0162 (Information & Referral Center)
(504) 899-4501
(504) 895-4162 (Fax)
www.lhb.org/
E-mail: clee@lhb.org
William Price, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve the blind and visually impaired of the region by providing them with job training, competitive employment and services, and to promote individual independence and self-reliance.

Established: 1913.

County/District where located: Orleans Parish.

Geographic area served: Greater New Orleans and surrounding area.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Architecturally barrier-free.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Magnifiers and More offers a wide variety of devices to assist individuals with varying degrees of vision loss. The store carries a range of products from high-tech devices to maximize safety and independence.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers group instruction in braille to adults seeking to learn Grade 1 and Grade 2 braille. Classes are held two days per week.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Legal documents, tax information publications, hymnals, and more.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides information to health care professionals, retirement community staff, and other organizations on how to better serve blind patrons and clients. Offers periodic educational seminars for the public and families about the causes of visual impairment and how to cope with vision loss.

Computer Training: Teaches computer skills to learners of all ages, from basic keyboarding skills to word processing and advanced Internet use. Helps people to learn to use the personal computer with screen-reading and magnification software. Classes are available in JAWS, Magic, Windows, Internet Explorer, Outlook Express and other software. Maintains a Computer Learning Center for individual or group training for people who are blind and visually impaired.

Employment: Assists individuals to become successfully employed. Works closely with employers to meet their needs through referring individuals who are well suited to particular positions. Performs vocational assessments to determine each client's skills, strengths, and interests. Provides supported employment to individuals who are interested in obtaining employment and have been assessed to need intensive support to achieve success in competitive employment. Offers a comprehensive vocational training program for people who are deaf/deaf-blind or have other disabilities to prepare the individual for competitive employment.

In-Home Services: Pairs adult blind and visually impaired clients with sighted volunteers to assist them with weekly errands and small projects as needed.

Information and Referral: Assists persons who are blind or partially sighted access available services through referrals to local, state, or national resources. Investigates new resources as they become available. Provides follow-up to callers to ensure that referrals were useful.

Low Vision: Maintains the Lighthouse Low Vision Clinic, which works with clients in cooperation with eye care professionals to optimize any remaining sight so they can perform tasks and activities independently. After a comprehensive examination, a licensed optometrist with experience in the field of low vision determines how to maximize the patient's remaining vision. Low vision devices may be prescribed along with training in their use by an occupational therapist.

Orientation and Mobility: Issues prescription canes to students and teaches the skills necessary for daily independent travel. Areas included in this program are: room familiarity, residential and business travel, street crossing and bus travel. Works with the public school system to provide orientation and mobility training to children in the schools.

Recreation: STARS (Students Together Acquiring Recreational Skills) unites students who are visually impaired and blind, ages 6-18, with high school volunteers. These students participate in a variety of recreational activities including sporting and cultural events, as well as social and learning experiences. Summer Day Camp gives children who are blind or visually impaired an opportunity to explore, learn, and be just like other kids. The six-week camp is for children ages 8-12 who are visually impaired or blind. Campers enjoy swimming, arts and crafts, recreational outings, computer introduction, braille, daily living skills techniques, and more.

Rehabilitation: Offers Project Adjustment, a six-week training course for individuals who are struggling to perform their daily activities due to vision loss. Techniques are taught to manage most activities of daily living such as cooking, O&M, reading/writing, money management, and leisure activities. Offers assistance to each client who needs help transitioning skills from the classroom to the home. Home visits available to clients who are having difficulty maintaining their safety and independence in their homes due to vision loss. Licensed occupational therapist provides individualized training and home adaptations to assist clients in performing their activities of daily living.

Support Groups: Assists newly blind and low vision clients in coping with vision loss. Offers a weekly support group facilitated by an experienced social worker.

Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

3042 Old Forge Road

Suite D

Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4115

Tel: (800) 270-6185 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state only)

(225) 925-9500 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(225) 925-9560 (Fax)

www.latan.org

E-mail: cpourciau@latan.org

Julie Nesbit, President and CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals with disabilities to achieve a higher quality of life and greater independence through increased access to assistive technology as part of their daily lives.

Established: 1991.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Holds continuous outreach activities to help consumers to keep up to date with current trends in AT.

Information and Referral: Provides information about available assistive devices and sources of funding.

Louisiana Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

101 South Trenton Street

Ruston, LA 71270

Tel: (800) 234-4166

(318) 251-2891

(318) 251-0109 (Fax)

www.lcb-ruston.com

E-mail: training@lcb-ruston.com

Pamela Allen, Director, allenp@lcb-ruston.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help blind persons fully participate in the economic, social and spiritual lives of their communities.

Established: 1985.

County/District where located: Lincoln Parish.

Geographic area served: United States, primarily Louisiana.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind adults and children. Also programs for elderly blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Apartments available for students.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides counseling.

Early Intervention: Coordinates statewide services for blind and visually impaired infants and toddlers.

Employment: Offers assistance in job placement following services and training.

Professional Training: Provides occasional on-the-job training.

Recreation: Provides voluntary participation in a health/recreational facility for clients.

Rehabilitation: Offers 6-9 month training program in cane travel, braille, keyboarding, computer literacy, and home economics, independent living skills, mobility and industrial arts. Coordinates statewide workshops for older blind individuals.

Louisiana Department of Education: Division of Special Populations

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Clairborne Building

1201 North Third Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5243

Tel: (225) 342-3633

(225) 219-4588 (TDD/TTY)

(225) 342-5880 (Fax)

www.doe.state.la.us/

Virginia C. Beridon, Director, Special Populations,
Virginia.Beridon@la.gov

Evelyn Johnson, Section Supervisor Part C and ECSE,
(225) 342-3730, (225) 342-5297 (Fax),
evelyn.johnson@la.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To identify, locate, and evaluate exceptional children and provide free appropriate public education to those 3 through 21 years of age and to provide early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Geographic area served: Louisiana.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Publications: Bulletins detailing regulations as applied to state and federal laws, handbooks on best practice guidelines.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Identifies, locates, and evaluates exceptional children throughout the state.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides statewide technical assistance to school systems, parent organizations, and other agencies.

Counseling: Offers in-service training and special assistance programs to school systems, parent organizations, and other public or private agencies.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services.

Education Services: Provides free appropriate education to those 3 through 21 years of age, using IDEA guidelines.

Louisiana Department of Social Services: Rehabilitation Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Independent living program**

■ **State rehabilitation services**

8225 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Tel: (800) 737-2958 (Louisiana only)

(225) 925-3594

(225) 925-4481 (Fax)

[www.dss.state.la.us/departments/lrs/](http://www.dss.state.la.us/departments/lrs/Blind_-_Visually_Impaired.html)

[Blind_-_Visually_Impaired.html](http://www.dss.state.la.us/departments/lrs/Blind_-_Visually_Impaired.html)

Florence Menard, Director, fmenard@dss.state.la.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist persons with disabilities to obtain or maintain employment and/or achieve independence in their communities by providing rehabilitation services and working cooperatively with businesses and other community services.

Geographic area served: Louisiana.

Eligibility requirements: The presence of a physical and/or mental disability that constitutes or results in a substantial handicap to employment and a reasonable expectation that vocational rehabilitation services will benefit the individual in terms of employability.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Business/Personal Services, Counseling, Financial Assistance, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Business/Personal Services: Provides personal care to persons with very severe disabilities by providing assistance with activities of daily living.

Counseling: Refers to New Orleans Resources for Independent Living for Community and Family Support Program, a supported living program which allows severely disabled individuals to leave institutions.

Employment: Provides vocational rehabilitation services, including work evaluation, assessment for and provision of assistive technology, job counseling services, medical and therapeutic services.

Financial Assistance: Through a federal grant, provides funding to Affiliated Blind of Louisiana to

coordinate Choices and Opportunities Project for the Elderly Blind (Project COPE) for ages 55 and older.

Rehabilitation: Provides services to enable individuals with significant disabilities to function independently in the family or community.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Alexandria: 900 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301

Baton Rouge: 3651 Cedarcrest Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Houma: 1198 Barrow Street, Houma, LA 70360-5693

Lafayette: 825 Kaliste Saloom Road, Brandywine VI, Suite 350, Lafayette, LA 70508

Lake Charles: 3616 Kirkman Street, Lake Charles, LA 70605

Monroe: 122 St. John Street, Room 311, Monroe, LA 71201

New Orleans: 3500 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70119-6109

Shreveport: 1525 Fairfield, Room 708, Shreveport, LA 71101

Louisiana Instructional Materials Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (LIMC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

1230 Government Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802-4328

Tel: (225) 219-1686

(225) 219-1684 (Fax)

www.lsvi.org/LIMC.htm

Eric Guillory, Resource Specialist, eguillory@lsvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: East Baton Rouge.

Geographic area served: Louisiana.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired students in Louisiana schools.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Fee structure: No charge to patrons.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Educational materials needed in Louisiana schools.

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Louisiana. Provides braille and large print textbooks and ancillary materials for school-age students in Louisiana with medically documented visual impairments. Also provides items available from the American Printing House for the Blind, such as specialized paper for braille and large print users, educational kits and learning tools for the visually impaired, and professional publications and guides for VI Teachers.

Louisiana Office of Elderly Affairs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

412 North Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Tel: (225) 342-7100

(225) 342-7133 (Fax)

www.la.gov

E-mail: kjryder@aol.com

Godfrey White, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as the focal point for the development, implementation and administration of public policy for the state of Louisiana, and address the needs of the state's elderly citizens.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: East Baton Rouge Parish.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services. Addresses the needs of the state's elderly citizens.

Louisiana Ophthalmology Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1010 Common Street

Suite 1740

New Orleans, LA 70112

Tel: (504) 569-9516

(504) 522-3325 (Fax)

Janna Pecquet, Executive Director, pecquet@opms.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Orleans Parish.

Funded by: Workshop sales.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides public education on vision, effects of diabetes on sight, and sports safety.

Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired (LSVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1120 Government Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802-4897

Tel: (225) 342-8694

(225) 342-1885 (Fax)

www.lsvi.org/

Janet Ford, Superintendent, jford@lsvi.org

Gwendolyn Etienne, Principal, (225) 342-4756,
getienne@lsvi.org

Eric Guillory, Instructional Materials Center, (225)

342-5144, (225) 219-1684 (Fax), eguillory@lsvi.org

Mitzi Jones, Director, Education and Field Services,
(225) 342-4756, mjones@lsvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality educational and support services statewide in response to the ever-changing needs of blind and visually impaired students in Louisiana.

Established: 1852.

County/District where located: East Baton Rouge Parish.

Geographic area served: Louisiana.

Eligibility requirements: Educable visually impaired resident of Louisiana, under 22 years of age.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: 504 compliant.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for students, housing for visitors.

Fee structure: No cost to students.

Publications: In Touch: A Newsletter for Persons Serving Blind and Visually Impaired Students in Louisiana.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers tests to identify eligible students through its Statewide Assessment Center for the Visually Impaired.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach services to apprise community of available services for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance to schools throughout Louisiana.

Early Intervention: Provides evaluations of infants by LEA referral.

Education Services: Provides educational services to blind and visually impaired students grades K-12.

Employment: Provides training in vocational skills and transitional planning.

Health/Medical: Provides general medical, dental, and ophthalmological services.

Library: Maintains a library for blind and visually impaired students.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Preschool: Provides educational services for students ages 3-5.

Professional Training: Provides in-service training for professionals.

Recreation: Offers recreational and extracurricular activities for enrolled students.

Louisiana State Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

115-B North 13th Street

Oakdale, LA 71463

Tel: (318) 335-0675

(318) 335-0677 (Fax)

E-mail: optla@bellsouth.net

James D. Sandefur, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To actively represent and educate its members and to promote optometry in Louisiana as an equal, primary health care profession.

Established: 1937.

County/District where located: Allen Parish.

Geographic area served: Louisiana.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Professional Training: Provides training to members.

Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of America (RSVA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

State Library of Louisiana Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

701 North Fourth Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Tel: (800) 543-4702

(225) 342-4944

(225) 342-6817 (Fax)

www.state.lib.la.us/Dept/SpecServ/sbph.htm

E-mail: sbph@pelican.state.lib.la.us

Elizabeth Perkins, Librarian

Charles Richardson, Machine Agency Contact

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1958.

County/District where located: East Baton Rouge County.

Geographic area served: Louisiana. Braille readers receive service from Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Building meets ADA requirements.

Staff: Also uses student and other volunteers.

Publications: Louisiana Hotlines (quarterly newsletter), large-print catalogue, descriptive videos catalogue.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Alabama.

WRBH 88.3 FM Reading Radio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

3606 Magazine Street

New Orleans, LA 70115

Tel: (504) 899-1144

(504) 899-1165 (Fax)

www.wrbh.org

Dori Orr, Executive Director, dori@webdsi.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide equal access to news and information for blind and visually impaired people.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Orleans Parish.

Geographic area served: Southeast Louisiana and Mississippi.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Broadcasts 24 hours a day. Office hours: 6:00 AM-2:00 PM, 7 days a week; Tues. and Thurs. 4:00 PM-7:00 PM; Wed. 5:00 PM-8:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps provided.

Staff: 7. 3 full-time, 4 part-time.

Fee structure: Free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours a day.

Maine

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Maine Department of Human Services:
Bureau of Elder and Adult Services
(800) 262-2232

Maine Department of Labor: Division for the
Blind and Visually Impaired
(207) 624-5950

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Maine Department of Education: Child
Development Services, Interdepartmental
Coordinating Council on Early Intervention
(800) 355-8611

Educational Services

Maine Department of Labor: Division for the
Blind and Visually Impaired
(207) 624-5950

Rehabilitation Services

Maine Department of Labor: Division for the
Blind and Visually Impaired
(207) 624-5950

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Library Services for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped, Maine State Library (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Maine Optometric Association
Maine Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

National Publishers

Thorndike Press

Radio Reading Stations

The Iris Network

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Iris Network

Residential Facilities

The Iris Network

Social Service Organizations

Catholic Charities Maine: Education Services for Blind
and Visually Impaired Children

State Technology Programs

Maine Consumer Information and Technology Training
Exchange

Catholic Charities Maine: Education Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

1066 Kenduskeag Avenue
Bangor, ME 04401
Tel: (207) 941-2855
(207) 941-2853 (Fax)

www.ccmaine.org/

E-mail: esbvic@ccmaine.org

John M. Kerry, CEO, info@ccmaine.org

Jean Small, Program Director, jeansmall@ccmaine.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality education services to
children of Maine who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1964.

Geographic area served: Maine.

Eligibility requirements: Vision loss causing a barrier to learning.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 am-5:00 pm.

Clients served annually: 350.

Staff: 18.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers assessment of children from birth to age 21 who have a vision condition that impacts learning.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Braille and large-print books and instructional materials for students served by the organization.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultation to schools, families, and others on the impact of the vision loss and modifications or adaptations needed.

Counseling: Offers limited counseling services through the state services for the blind.

Early Intervention: Provides assessment, direct teaching, and consultation on the needs of the young child with vision loss as identified in the Individualized Family Service Plan.

Education Services: Functions as the statewide provider of education services, including assessment, direct teaching, and consultation, to all children in Maine who are blind or visually impaired.

Information and Referral: Refers to other state agencies for services.

Low Vision: Evaluation and follow-up. Low Vision specialist trains staff working with children.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: New England Region Office (HKNC)

See Massachusetts.

The Iris Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Radio reading station
- Rehabilitation agency
- Residential facility

189 Park Avenue

Portland, ME 04102

Tel: (800) 715-0097

(207) 774-6273

(207) 715-0097 (TDD/TTY)

(207) 774-0679 (Fax)

www.theiris.org

E-mail: ACorreia@TheIris.org

Steven Obremski, President/CEO,
sobremski@theiris.org

Anisio Correia, Vice President, Program Services,
acorreia@theiris.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation, training, education and related services for individuals, their families, and other support systems, and to be a resource regarding issues related to blindness and visual impairment within the state of Maine.

Established: 1905.

County/District where located: Cumberland County.

Geographic area served: Maine.

Eligibility requirements: Functional vision limitation.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Residential Facilities: The Iris Network provides limited room and board for out-of-town consumers while attending our rehabilitation programs. Also provides long-term residence for blind and multi-disabled individuals.

Clients served annually: 1,300.

Staff: 50. Over 50 full-time, part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in health fairs, presentations at senior centers, public forums.

Counseling: Offers individual and group adjustment counseling.

Housing Services: Provides temporary and long-term housing for individuals who are visually impaired and multi-disabled, and seek a supportive environment.

Information and Referral: Refers to low vision providers and other local services.

Low Vision: Provides training in the use of low vision devices and techniques for maximizing use of residual vision.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from local newspapers through the secondary audio program (SAP). Special receivers provided to access SAP television channel.

Recreation: Provides recreation services for residents and offers sports and recreation program for interested participants. Provides adapted recreation activities for seniors.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in mobility and in independent living for adults individually in their homes and on a group basis.

LOCAL OFFICES

Augusta: 73 Schoolhouse Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0073

Bangor: 45 Oak Street, Bangor, ME 04407

Ellesworth: 240 State Street, Ellesworth, ME 04605

Houlton: 91 Military Street, Houlton, ME 04730

Lewiston: 5 Mollison Way, Lewiston, ME 04240

Rockland: 279 Main Street, Rockland, ME 04841

Saco: 333 Lincoln Street, Saco, ME 04072

Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Maine State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

64 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0064

Tel: (800) 762-7106 (Within state only)

(207) 287-5650

(207) 287-5654 (Fax)

www.state.me.us/msl/

Melora R. Norman, Coordinator, Outreach Services,
melora.norman@maine.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Kennebec County.

Geographic area served: Maine.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8 AM-5 PM.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Maine Consumer Information and Technology Training Exchange

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Main CITE Coordinating Center

46 University Drive

Augusta, ME 04330

Tel: (207) 621-3195

(207) 621-3482 (TDD/TTY)

(207) 621-3193 (Fax)

www.maine.cite.org

E-mail: iweb@doe.k12.me.us

Kathleen Powers, Project Director,
kpowers@maine.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help make assistive and universally designed technology more available to Maine children and adults who have disabilities.

Established: 1989.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Provides resources to help consumers find funding for assistive technology.

Information and Referral: Provides information about training opportunities related to assistive technology, disabilities and universal design.

Maine Department of Education: Child Development Services, Interdepartmental Coordinating Council on Early Intervention

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

146 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Tel: (800) 355-8611

(207) 624-6660

(207) 624-6661 (Fax)

www.maine.gov/education/speced/cdsstaff.htm

Laurie Bertulli, Part C Coordinator,
laurie.bertulli@maine.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Kennebec County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Maine's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Provides early intervention services to children from birth to age 5.

Maine Department of Human Services: Bureau of Elder and Adult Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

11 State House Station

442 Civic Center Drive

Augusta, ME 04333

Tel: (800) 262-2232

(207) 287-9200

(888) 720-1925 (TDD/TTY)

(207) 287-9234 (TDD/TTY)

(207) 287-9229 (Fax)

www.state.me.us/dhs/beas/beas.htm

Christine Gianopoulos, Director,
christine.gianopoulos@maine.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote optimal independence for elders and adults with disabilities.

Geographic area served: Maine.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Maine Department of Labor: Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State educational services
- State rehabilitation services

2 Anthony Avenue
 #150 State House Station
 Augusta, ME 04333-0150
 Tel: (207) 624-5950
 (207) 624-5955 (TDD/TTY)
 (207) 624-5980 (Fax)
www.state.me.us/rehab/
 Harold J. Lewis, Director, DBVI,
Harold.J.Lewis@Maine.Gov
 Paul E. Cote, Program Manager, DBVI,
Paul.E.Cote@Maine.Gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1941.
County/District where located: 9 offices statewide.
Geographic area served: Maine.
Eligibility requirements: Must have visual impairment that is a barrier to employment, education or independent living.
Ages served: 1 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Fully accessible.
Budget: \$5,500,000.
Clients served annually: 1200.
Staff: 70.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.
Computer Training: Provides adaptive technology training services to consumers in the VR and IL programs. Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, adaptive technology training.
Employment: Provides services toward acquiring a job.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.
Parent Assistance: Offers counseling to parents through educational consultants and direct instructional services to blind students from birth through age 22.
Reading Services: Provides radio reading services of newspapers and other material (Bangor Daily News, Portland Press Herald, Aroostook Weekly and others).
Rehabilitation: Provides adaptive skills training in orientation and mobility and activities of daily living.

Maine Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

72 Western Avenue
 Augusta, ME 04330
 Tel: (207) 626-9920
 (207) 626-9935 (Fax)
www.MaineEyeDoctors.com
 E-mail: nanmoa@maineeyedoctors.com
 Nan-Elizabeth B. Reynolds, Executive Director,
nanmoa@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote optometry as a primary care profession by advancing the quality and availability of eye, vision, and related health care for the citizens and visitors of Maine, enhancing the independent and ethical decision-making of its member doctors.
Established: 1901.
County/District where located: Kennebec County.
Geographic area served: Maine.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.
Publications: Newsletters.

Maine Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 190
 Manchester, ME 04358
 Tel: (207) 445-2260
 (207) 445-4880 (Fax)
www.maineeyemds.com/
 E-mail: sgoggin@mainemed.com
 Gordon H. Smith, Executive Director,
gsmith@mainemed.com
 Shirley Goggin, Executive Assistant, (207) 622-3332
 (Fax), sgoggin@pivot.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Kennebec County.

Thorndike Press

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

Maryland

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Maryland Department of Aging
(800) 243-3425

Maryland State Department of Education:
Division of Rehabilitation Services
(888) 200-7117

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Maryland Infant and Toddlers Program
(800) 535-0182

Educational Services

Maryland State Department of Education:
Division of Special Education/Early
Intervention Services
(410) 767-0238

Instructional Materials Center

Maryland Instructional Resource Center
(410) 319-5715

Rehabilitation Services

Maryland State Department of Education:
Division of Rehabilitation Services
(888) 200-7117

School for the Blind

Maryland School for the Blind
(800) 400-4915

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Metropolitan Washington Ear
NFB Newsline

Educational Agencies

Montgomery County Public Schools: Deaf and Hard of
Hearing/Vision Program
Ruth Parker Eason School

Information/Referral Centers

Foundation Fighting Blindness
Low Vision Information Center
Maryland Society for Sight
Special Needs Library, Montgomery County Public
Libraries

Libraries

Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped (NLS)
Special Needs Library, Montgomery County Public
Libraries (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Low Vision Information Center
National Naval Medical Center: Department of
Ophthalmology
Richard E. Hoover Rehabilitation Services for Low
Vision and Blindness
University of Maryland Eye Associates
Wilmer Eye Institute

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

American Association of the Deaf-Blind
Guide Dog Users
National Federation of the Blind
TASH

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Maryland Optometric Association
Maryland Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
Optometric Society of the District of Columbia

National Organizations

American Association of the Deaf-Blind
 Foundation Fighting Blindness
 Guide Dog Users
 International Braille Research Center
 National Council of State Agencies for the Blind
 National Federation of the Blind
 National Glaucoma Research Program of the American
 Health Assistance Foundation
 TASH

National Publishers

National Federation of the Blind

Radio Reading Stations

Eastern Shore Radio Reading Service (WESM-FM)
 Metropolitan Washington Ear

Radio Reading Network of Maryland

Rehabilitation Agencies

Blind Industries and Services of Maryland
 Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths
 and Adults: East Central Region Office
 Services for the Visually Impaired

Research Organizations

National Glaucoma Research Program of the American
 Health Assistance Foundation

Schools for the Blind

Maryland School for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Maryland Technology Assistance Program

American Association of the Deaf-Blind (AADB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Blind Industries and Services of Maryland (BISM)**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ Rehabilitation agency**

3345 Washington Boulevard
 Baltimore, MD 21227
 Tel: (888) 322-4567
 (410) 737-2600
 (410) 737-2667 (Fax)
 www.bism.org

Frederick J. Puente, President, fpuente@bism.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality services, training, and stable employment opportunities to blind adults.

Established: 1908.

Geographic area served: Maryland, but administers branches in Western and Eastern Maryland for different products.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind. Maryland resident, but tuition-based services provided to those from other states.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

Publications: Program description brochures.

Assessment: Administers McCarron Dial Vocational Assessments and functional assessments of basic skill levels.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers home teaching services, presentations on blindness, programs for community groups and agencies, convention presentations, in-service training.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, computer hardware, Internet, typing, braille display, Microsoft Excel, e-mail, employer-specific software.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance on hourly fee basis.

Counseling: Offers consultation, information and referral as well as twice-weekly seminars on adjustment to blindness.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational and vocational training, employment opportunities for the blind, and job placement and employment development services. Sells products produced in workshops on site.

Information and Referral: Provides ongoing referral services.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training.

Recreation: Offers programs for children/teens (camps, teen retreat).

Rehabilitation: Offers rehabilitation training program, preparing people who are blind for everyday challenges of family, work, and personal achievement. Sponsors senior events (on- and off-site) and offers home teaching services, senior training and support.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Cumberland: 322 Paca Street, Cumberland, MD 21502
Salisbury: 2240 Northwood Drive, Salisbury, MD 21801

Eastern Shore Radio Reading Service (WESM-FM)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Princess Ann, MD 21853

Tel: (410) 651-8001
(410) 651-8005 (Fax)
www.wesm913.org

Marva Copeland, General Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Somerset County.

Geographic area served: Counties in Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware encompassing the Delmarva Peninsula.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from a wide variety of newspapers, magazines and books. Publications include the Daily Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and other newspapers.

Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Guide Dog Users (GDUI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: East Central Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4351 Garden City Drive
Suite 645
New Carrollton, MD 20785

Tel: (301) 459-5474
(301) 459-5433 (TDD/TTY)
(301) 459-5070 (Fax)

www.hknc.org

E-mail: HKNCREG3CL@aol.com

Cynthia L. Ingraham, Regional Representative, Field Services, HKNCREG3CL@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies. Our goal is to assist persons with deaf-blindness in becoming as

independent as possible and in enjoying a quality of life as full and productive as possible in their local communities.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Prince George's County.

Geographic area served: Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Persons with combined vision and hearing loss (deaf-blind).

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM or by appointment.

Accessibility: Full accessibility.

Staff: 2 staff members.

Fee structure: Regional services free of charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, New York facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, New York facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

International Braille Research Center (IBRC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Low Vision Information Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

7701 Woodmont Avenue
Suite 604

Bethesda, MD 20814

Tel: (301) 951-4444

(301) 951-0078 (Fax)

www.lowvisioninfo.org

E-mail: lowvisioninfo@lycos.com

Amy G. Gabala, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information and referral aimed at helping people with low vision.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Appointments Required.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Budget: \$100,000.

Clients served annually: 1,000.

Staff: 2. Staff includes paid and volunteer staff.

Fee structure: Services are free.

Publications: Vistas (quarterly newsletter). Winning Ideas for Failing Sight.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells magnifiers and nonoptical devices. Mail orders accepted. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Prepares presentations on coping with low vision and provides demonstrations of low vision devices and strategies.

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral.

Low Vision: Provides a wide range of optical, nonoptical, and high-tech low vision devices.

Maryland Department of Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **State unit on aging**

301 West Preston Street
Suite 1007

Baltimore, MD 21201

Tel: (800) 243-3425

(410) 767-1100

(800) 735-2258 (TDD/TTY)

(410) 333-7943 (Fax)

www.mdoa.state.md.us

Jean Roesser, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To oversee the delivery of programs, services and benefits through Maryland's network of 19 local Area Agencies on Aging.

Geographic area served: Maryland.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Maryland Infant and Toddlers Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Part C early intervention agency**

Maryland State Department of Education

Division of Special Education and Early Intervention Services

200 West Baltimore Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

Tel: (800) 535-0182 (In state only)

(410) 767-0261

(410) 333-2661 (Fax)

www.cte.jhu.edu/dse_eis/eis.cfm

Deborah Metzger, Part C Coordinator,
dmetzger@msde.state.md.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.

Geographic area served: Maryland.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Maryland's Early Intervention System as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Maryland Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

Maryland School for the Blind

3501 Taylor Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21236-4499

Tel: (410) 319-5715

(410) 319-5706 (Fax)

www.mdschblind.org/HTML/irc.html

Robb Farrell, Director, Statewide Instructional Resource Center, robbf@mdschblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Maryland.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Maryland.

Maryland Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Professional membership organization**

720 Light Street

Baltimore, MD 21230

Tel: (800) 492-3025

(410) 727-7800

www.marylandeyes.com/

E-mail: moa@assnhqtrs.com

Thomas Shaner, Executive Director
Sharon Kneebone, Associate Director

Maryland School for the Blind (MSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

3501 Taylor Avenue
 Baltimore, MD 21236-4499
 Tel: (800) 400-4915
 (410) 444-5000
 (410) 319-5703 (TDD/TTY)
 (410) 319-5700 (Fax)
www.mdschblind.org
 E-mail: info@mdschblind.org
 Elaine Sveen, President and CEO, (410) 319-5719 (Fax),
elaines@mdschblind.org
 Mark Althoff, Director of Development, (410) 319-5728,
marka@mdschblind.org
 Karen Frank, Infant and Toddler Program
 Karen Harhove-Newcomb, Recreation Supervisor
 Ruth Ann Hynson, Community Liaison, Outreach,
 (410) 319-5726
 Kelly Knoph, Employment
 Dennis McGough, Vice President and CHRO, (410)
 319-5718, dennism@mdschblind.org
 Karin Nord, Assistive Technology Specialist,
KarinN@mdschblind.org
 Margaret Reitz, Teacher, maggier@mdschblind.org
 Lorraine Rocissano, Psychology
 Linda Rosendall, Director of Education, (410) 319-5713,
LindaR@mdschblind.org
 Michael Schemm, Director of Residential Services, (410)
 319-5750, mschemm@mdschblind.org
 Chris Scholtes, Vice President and Chief Administrative
 Officer, chriss@mdschblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To educate children and youth with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities, for functional independence.

Established: 1853.

County/District where located: Baltimore City/County.

Geographic area served: Maryland. Accepts out-of-state students on a tuition basis.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, including children with multiple disabilities. Must be referred by student's local school system or state Infant and Toddler Program.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Sun.-Fri. during the school year, 24 hours.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, braille signage, complies with ADA requirements. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories, cottages, on-site apartments for advanced students.

Clients served annually: 700.

Staff: 350 full-time, 30 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Annual Report, MSB News, The Window.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Maintains a statewide depository for braille and large print textbooks for blind and visually impaired students attending public and private schools throughout Maryland and a braille production facility to produce needed braille textbooks that are not available from another source.

Assessment: Provides assessments in the following areas: low vision, occupational and physical therapy, speech language, psychology, social work, vocational education, audiology, braille, therapeutic recreation, living skills, and health review.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille. Provides training in personal handwriting and typing skills and the use of video magnifiers.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Textbooks.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers services to visually impaired students in local schools and to recent graduates seeking community placement. Assesses students residing outside of Maryland on fee-for-service basis.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance.

Counseling: Conducts social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation, individual counseling, placement in school, and training.

Early Intervention: Offers infant and toddler program.

Education Services: Offers K-12 and nongraded programs. Has programs for preschool, general academic, vocational/skill development, infants and toddlers, community-based instruction.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, vending stand training.

Health/Medical: Provides diagnosis and evaluation of eye health, treatment of eye conditions, prescription of spectacles or devices, audiology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy. Maintains on-campus medical specialty clinics.

Information and Referral: Provides information/referral through community liaison.

Library: Maintains a library of large print, braille books, audio tapes, and professional materials.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent training opportunities, access to information, and referral to appropriate local agencies.

Preschool: Offers instruction in all developmental areas in visually impaired and multiply disabled classes.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in special education, social work, speech pathology, orientation and mobility, psychology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, recreation, in-service training programs for staff and for other agencies.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs—arts and crafts, hobby groups, bowling, swimming, track, wrestling, skiing, roller skating, off-campus trips, community-based recreation.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, typing, and home management skills and in the use of video magnifiers.

Maryland Society for Sight

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

1313 West Old Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, MD 21209

Tel: (800) 677-3937

(410) 243-2020

(410) 889-2505 (Fax)

www.mdsocietyforsight.org/FactSheet.htm

E-mail: mdsocietyforsight@erols.com

Kathleen M. Curtin, Executive Director

Audrey Novak, Director of Preschool Vision Screening Program

Sherry Roe, Director of Adult Eye Health Programs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight for Marylanders.

Established: 1909.

County/District where located: Baltimore County.

Geographic area served: Baltimore, Howard, Hadford, Cecil, Carroll, and Anne Arundel Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Most services provided off-site.

Staff: 2 full-time, 4 part-time eye health educators and one Director of Volunteers.

Fee structure: Voluntary \$5.00 donation for preschool vision screening.

Publications: Brochures on eye diseases, eye health and safety.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts vision screening for children ages 3-4 to identify early signs of serious eye disease and refers for intervention.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts vision screening for preschoolers and adults and provides free eye examinations and eyeglasses to the homeless.

Health/Medical: Provides information and screening services to those at risk for potentially blinding eye conditions, eye safety information, and free eye exams and eyeglasses for the homeless.

In-Home Services: Works with blind and visually impaired persons in their homes to assist with activities of daily living.

Information and Referral: Provides information on eye health and safety and refers people to organizations that can serve their needs through counseling, talks, films, pamphlets, exhibits, and posters.

Maryland Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1211 Cathedral Street

Baltimore, MD 21201-5585

Tel: (410) 244-7320

(410) 545-4169 (Fax)

www.marylandeyemds.org

E-mail: mdeyedoc@cs.com

Nancy J. Nickles-Dawson, Executive Director

Maryland State Department of Education: Division of Rehabilitation Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

2301 Argonne Drive

Baltimore, MD 21218-1696

Tel: (888) 200-7117

(410) 554-9108

(410) 554-9411 (TDD/TTY)

(410) 554-9112 (Fax)

www.dors.state.md.us/

E-mail: dors@dors.state.md.us

Robert A. Burns, Assistant State Superintendent

Sue Schaffer, Director,

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals with disabilities to live independently and productively.

Established: 1929.

Geographic area served: Maryland.

Eligibility requirements: Physical or mental impairment resulting in a substantial impediment to employment.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Residential Facilities: At our comprehensive rehabilitation center in Baltimore, MD.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: Blind Services Guide (web link).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses clients to determine eligibility for the program.

Counseling: Offers counseling to determine rehabilitation goals, directed toward a job or independent living needs.

Employment: Provides job skills training, placement, and ongoing support services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides readers and training in assistive technologies. Runs a Community Living Skills Training Program. Administers Grant for Older Blind.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Annapolis: 2001-A Commerce Park Drive, Suite One, Annapolis, MD 21401-2913, dorsannp@erols.com

Baltimore: 1515 West Mount Royal Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21217-4247, doors@erols.com

Hagerstown: Professional Arts Building, Five Public Square, Suite 411, Hagerstown, MD 21701-5583, dorshagr@intrepid.net

Salisbury: District Court, Multi-Service Center, 201 Baptist Street, Salisbury, MD 21801-4975, dorsesho@share.intercom.net

Towson: 113 Towsontown Boulevard East, Suite B, Towson, MD 21286-5352, dorstow@clark.net

**Maryland State Department of Education:
Division of Special Education/Early
Intervention Services**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State educational services**

200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Tel: (410) 767-0238

www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/

CarolAnn Baglin, Assistant State Superintendent,
Division of Special Education,
CBaglin@msde.state.md.us

Deborah Metzger, Program Manager, Maryland Infants
and Toddlers Program and Preschool Special
Education Services, (410) 767-0261,
dmetzger@msde.state.md.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the unique needs of children with disabilities through specially designed education, to assist local school systems with early childhood programs, individual education plans, and program evaluation.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Program Evaluation and Compliance Branch provides support and technical assistance to other branches in the division and to the assistant state superintendent in evaluating programs for students with disabilities.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Maryland's early intervention system as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Assists local school districts with early childhood programs, individual education plans, and program evaluations.

**Maryland State Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

415 Park Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21201-3603

Tel: (800) 964-9209 (In Maryland only)

(410) 230-2424

(410) 333-8679 (TDD/TTY)

(410) 333-2095 (Fax)

www.lbph.lib.md.us

E-mail: recept@lbph.lib.md.us

Jill Lewis, Librarian

Sheila Smith, Machine Agency Contact

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Maryland except Montgomery County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM every second Sat.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Maryland Technology Assistance Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State technology program**

Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities
2301 Argonne Drive

Room T17

Baltimore, MD 21218

Tel: (800) 832-4827

(410) 554-9230 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(410) 554-9237 (Fax)

www.mdtpap.org

E-mail: mdtap@mdtap.org

Michael Dalto, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To establish a statewide, consumer responsive system for the delivery of technology related assistance to individuals with disabilities, under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998.

Established: 1989.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: With the Division of Rehabilitation Services, maintains the Information, Referral and Demonstration Center, which allows professionals and consumers to try out equipment before deciding on what to purchase, to fill in when adaptive equipment is in the shop for repairs, or when waiting for delivery of ordered equipment. Loans are for 3 weeks.

Information and Referral: Handles requests for information on assistive technology of every type and for every age group from infants to seniors. Provides information on devices on display at the Demonstration Center, located at the Maryland Rehabilitation Center in Baltimore.

Metropolitan Washington Ear

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Radio reading station

35 University Boulevard East

Silver Spring, MD 20901

Tel: (301) 681-6636

(301) 681-5227 (Fax)

www.washear.org

E-mail: information@washear.org

Nancy Knauss, Administrative Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide reading and information services for blind, visually impaired, and physically disabled people who cannot effectively read print, see plays, watch television programs and films, or view museum exhibits.

Established: 1974.

Geographic area served: Washington, Maryland, and Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone certified as unable effectively to read ordinary print because of a visual or physical limitation.

Hours of operation: 7 days a week.

Fee structure: Service is free. Receiver must be purchased.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Provides audiodescription of live performances in selected theaters in the Metropolitan Washington area and audiodescription soundtrack for films, videos, IMAX films. Also provides training in audiodescription.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** National Symphony's printed programs, braille, raised-line, large print, atlas of the state of Maryland with historical, demographic, and geographical data and raised-line and large print atlas of greater Washington area.

Information and Referral: Offers look-up service in which volunteers look up items from the Yellow Pages and the Washington Post classifieds.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from more than 200 current publications—national and local newspapers, magazines, best-sellers. Covers special interest consumer concerns, such as general and grocery shopping, home management, sports, music, the arts, business, world affairs, health, and aging. Publications include the Washington Post, Time, Washingtonian, People Magazine, USA Today, Wall Street Journal.

Montgomery County Public Schools: Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Vision Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

Gaithersburg Middle School

Room 2 Teacher

Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Tel: (301) 670-2250 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(301) 670-2259 (Fax)

www.mcps.k12.md.us/

Marjorie Cernitz, Vision Specialist,

Margie_Cernitz@mcpsmd.org

Susan Russell, Supervisor, Hearing and Vision,

Susan_Russell@mcpsmd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational support and special materials equipment to students who are visually impaired and attend the public schools and to provide services for the 0-5 aged population in their homes, centers and preschool settings.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Montgomery County.

Eligibility requirements: Documentation of visual impairment from ophthalmologist or optometrist.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Provides support for visually impaired public school students and their families.

Education Services: Provides services, itinerant teachers, educational materials to meet students' individual needs throughout Montgomery County.

Preschool: Provides services for children 0-5 at home or in school. Operates one site in Kensington specifically for visually impaired children, ages 3-5.

National Council of State Agencies for the Blind (NCSAB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Glaucoma Research Program of the American Health Assistance Foundation (AHAf)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Naval Medical Center: Department of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

8901 Wisconsin Avenue
Building 8
Bethesda, MD 20889-5000
Tel: (866) 628-9633 (For toll-free out of area appointments)
(301) 295-6289 (For appointments)
(301) 295-1481 (Fax)
www.bethesda.med.navy.mil/patient/health_care/specialty_surgery_services/ophthalmology/index.aspx#services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Unlimited.
Eligibility requirements: Military, dependents, retired personnel; referral from O.D. or M.D.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides a full spectrum of clinical ophthalmology services.

NFB Newslines

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230-4998
Tel: (888) 882-1629
(410) 659-9314
www.nfb.org/newsline1.htm
E-mail: nfbnewsline@nfb.org
John G. Pare, Director, jpare@nfb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: Anyone who cannot read conventional newsprint could qualify for this free service. Many seniors who have lost enough vision that reading the daily newspaper is no longer possible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Offers telephone reading services of major newspaper and magazines.

Optometric Society of the District of Columbia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

7705 Cayuga Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20817
Tel: (301) 229-4990
Virginia Martin, Executive Director

Radio Reading Network of Maryland

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

2901 Liberty Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215-7807
Tel: (800) 455-5605
(410) 562-8580
(410) 462-8553 (Fax)
E-mail: radioreading@nni.com
Mary Jo Pons, Executive Director
Joel Grove, Office Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1979.
County/District where located: Baltimore City.
Geographic area served: Maryland.
Eligibility requirements: Unable to read due to visual, physical, or other impairments.
Ages served: 5 to 100.
Hours of operation: 24/7.
Accessibility: Yes.
Budget: \$180,000.
Clients served annually: 8500.
Staff: 4. Executive Director, Office Administrator, Production Manager, Production Assistant.
Fee structure: \$50.00 annual fee. Can be waived.
Publications: Brochure and Program Guide in large type or on cassette and CD.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts portions of selected newspapers and magazines on radio or on stereo television sets over Second Audio Program (SAP) channel of Maryland Public Television (MPT).

Richard E. Hoover Rehabilitation Services for Low Vision and Blindness

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Greater Baltimore Medical Center
PPW 305

6569 North Charles Street

Physicians Pavilion West Suite 305

Baltimore, MD 21204

Tel: (800) 597-9142

(443) 849-2658

(443) 849-2631 (Fax)

www.gbmc.org/medicine/hoover/index.cfm

Trenitta Brady, Manager, tbrady@gbmc.org

Nicole B. Love, MD, Director, Hoover Services

Erin Milburn, Staff Assistant, Hoover VIEW, (443)

849-2603, emilburn@GBMC.org

James Stephens, Certified Low Vision Therapist, (443)

849-8098, (443) 849-8098 (Fax), jstephens@gbmc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide functional low vision evaluations, device training and technology when applicable, in-home evaluations to maintain independence for activities of daily living.

Established: 1987.

County/District where located: Baltimore County.

Geographic area served: Baltimore (main office), with satellites in Frederick, Salisbury, Annapolis, and Easton, Maryland.

Eligibility requirements: Referral, ophthalmologic report.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: 500.

Staff: 4+. Ophthalmologist, ophthalmology residents, certified low vision therapist, rehabilitation teachers, O&M specialists.

Fee structure: Insurance and for-fee services.

Publications: Our Vision (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Monthly visits to Retina Specialists offices in Salisbury, Annapolis, Frederick and Easton.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, In-Home Services, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices such as magnifiers and telescopes (upon evaluation). The Hoover VIEW offers one-stop shopping for nonoptical

devices such as writing guides, talking watches, pens, as well as a technology demonstration center offering public access to the latest electronic magnifiers. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

In-Home Services: Provides in-home functional evaluations which may include training in activities of daily living, lighting, safety, orientation & mobility as well as work site evaluations.

Low Vision: Performs low vision evaluations at Greater Baltimore Medical Center and 4 satellite offices throughout the state of Maryland.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers ophthalmology resident training in low vision.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in patient's environment by professionals certified in rehabilitation and orientation and mobility.

Support Groups: Holds monthly share group meetings.

Ruth Parker Eason School

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

648 Old Mill Road

Millersville, MD 21108-1373

Tel: (410) 222-3815

(410) 222-3817 (Fax)

www.aacps.org/aacps/Rutheasn/

E-mail: awithmer@aacps.org

Paulette Tanoue, Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Anne Arundel County.

Eligibility requirements: Both visually impaired and mentally challenged.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides educational services to various categories of mentally challenged students including mentally challenged who are also blind or visually impaired.

Services for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

8720 Georgia Avenue

Suite 210

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Tel: (301) 589-0894

(301) 589-7281 (Fax)

E-mail: servicesvi.org

Judy Rasmussen, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide visually impaired adults with the services and tools for independence.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, print handicapped.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is handicap accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds, United Way.

Fee structure: Sliding and set fees.

Publications: Brochure, newsletters, adaptive products catalogues.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Low vision and braille products. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Training in Excel and Word. Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Counseling: Offers individual counseling, family/parent counseling. Refers for social evaluation, testing, vocation placement.

Employment: Refers for pre-vocational evaluation, occupational skill development, training, placement.

Information and Referral: Refers to relevant community resources/services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training programs for health care providers.

Recreation: Provides monthly/weekend activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills, handwriting, and in the use of low vision devices.

Transportation: Provides transportation to recreational activities for blind and visually impaired persons.

Special Needs Library, Montgomery County Public Libraries

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ National Library Service library

6400 Democracy Boulevard

Bethesda, MD 20817

Tel: (240) 777-0960

(301) 897-2217 (TDD/TTY)

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/Libraries/branchinfo/sn.asp

Francie Gilman, Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Montgomery County.

Eligibility requirements: Public library open to all. NLS Talking Book program is available to individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Call for schedule.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible and ADA compliant.

Funded by: Public funds.

Clients served annually: 5000.

Staff: 7.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Information and Referral, Library Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors.

Information and Referral: Phone and walk-in reference service. Reference librarians consult the Internet as well as library reference and disability collections to provide information and referral.

Library: Talking Book service; reader's advisory service; children's books in braille; print-braille books for children; fiction and nonfiction large print books for adults and young adults; described videos; books and videos on blind and low vision. Talking Book service for eligible Montgomery County residents; fiction and non-fiction large-print books; books and videos about disabilities and for people of all ages with disabilities; close-captioned videos.

Reading Services: Newslines for the Blind.

TASH

See U.S. National Organizations.

University of Maryland Eye Associates

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

University of Maryland Professional Building

419 West Redwood Street

Suite 420

Baltimore, MD 21201

Tel: (410) 337-5566

(410) 337-8851 (Fax)

www.umm.edu/ophthalmology/

E-mail: jegod1@comcast.net

Judith Goldstein, Low Vision Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive vision rehabilitation.

County/District where located: Baltimore County.

Geographic area served: Maryland.

Eligibility requirements: Must provide current ophthalmological report.

Hours of operation: By appointment.

Staff: Rehabilitative optometrist, ophthalmologist, ophthalmology residents, optician, optometrist, orthoptist, low vision assistant, other specialists.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Baltimore: 6115 Falls Road, Suite 333, Baltimore, MD 21209

Baltimore: 9101 Franklin Square Drive, Suite 108, Baltimore, MD 21237

Bel Air: 620 Boulton Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

Bel Air: 520 Upper Chesapeake Drive, Suite 401, Bel Air, MD 21014

Ellicott City: 10132 D. Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Hagerstown: 1150 Opal court, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Havre de Grace: 930 Revolution Street, Havre de Grace, MD 21078

Owings Mills: 25 Crossroads Drive, Suite 412, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Towson: 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 200, Towson, MD 21204

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

Wilmer Eye Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

Johns Hopkins Hospital

600 N. Wolfe Street

Baltimore, MD 21287

Tel: (410) 955-0580

(410) 614-7965 (Fax)

www.wilmereyeinstitute.org

William Park, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral from an ophthalmologist or optometrist.

Hours of operation: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: Optometrists, social workers, ophthalmologists by referral, occupational therapists.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers counseling and social work services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in adapting to the environment, acquiring visual skills, and use of devices. Refers to other professionals as indicated.

Massachusetts

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs

(800) 243-4636

Massachusetts State Commission for the Blind

(800) 392-6450

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Massachusetts Department of Public Health:

Division for Special Health Needs, Early

Intervention Services

(617) 624-5962

Educational Services

Massachusetts Department of Education

(781) 338-3375

Instructional Materials Center

Massachusetts Department of Education:

Vision Resources Library

(781) 575-1843

Rehabilitation Services

Massachusetts State Commission for the Blind

(800) 392-6450

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Braille Co., Inc.

Descriptive Video Service: Media Access Group at WGBH

Lowell Association for the Blind

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Boston Unit

Sight Line Productions (Sight Line for the Blind)

Educational Agencies

Northeast Vision Consultants

Information/Referral Centers

Lowell Association for the Blind

Prevent Blindness Massachusetts

Talking Book Library at Worcester Public Library

Libraries

Braille and Talking Book Library, Perkins School for the Blind (NLS)

Talking Book Library at Worcester Public Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Boston University Eye Associates

Greater Boston Aid to the Blind

Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary: Vision Rehabilitation Center

New England Eye Institute: Low Vision Clinic

Perkins School for the Blind

Schepens Retina Associates: Low Vision Rehabilitation Center

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments

National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Association on Higher Education and Disability

Massachusetts Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

Massachusetts Society of Optometrists

National Organizations

Association on Higher Education and Disability

Braille Authority of North America

Choroideremia Research Foundation

Hilton/Perkins Program

Joslin Diabetes Center

National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments

National Birth Defects Center

National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness

Schepens Eye Research Institute

National Publishers

Large-Print Publishing Company
National Braille Press
Resources for Rehabilitation

Postsecondary Institutions

Boston College, Lynch School of Education: Teacher Education, Special Education, and Curriculum and Instruction Department

Radio Reading Stations

Audio Journal, Inc.
Lowell Association for the Blind
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary: Vision Rehabilitation Center
Radio Reading Service GW
Talking Information Center

Rehabilitation Agencies

Carroll Center for the Blind
Ferguson Industries for the Blind
Greater Boston Aid to the Blind

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: New England Region Office
MAB Community Services
Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries
Occupational Rehabilitation Group

Research Organizations

Boston College, Lynch School of Education: Teacher Education, Special Education, and Curriculum and Instruction Department
Choroideremia Research Foundation
Schepens Eye Research Institute

Residential Facilities

New England Home for the Deaf (Aged, Blind or Infirm)

Schools for the Blind

Hilton/Perkins Program
Perkins School for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Audio Journal, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Radio reading station**

799 West Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 01606
Tel: (508) 797-1117 (For call-in programs)
(508) 757-4074 (Fax)
www.audiojournal.net
E-mail: info@audiojournal.net
Vincent Lombardi, Director
Valerie Clapham, Volunteer Coordinator
Evelyn Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant,
evelyn@audiojournal.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information, education and entertainment to those who, for any reason, are unable to read the printed page.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Worcester County.

Geographic area served: Worcester County; also carried on cable access TV in Auburn, Barre, Boylston,

Charlton, Dudley, Fitchburg, Grafton, Harvard, Holden, Hubbardston, Leicester, Millbury, N.Brookfield, Northborough, Oakham, Paxton, Rutland, Shrewsbury, Sturbridge, Upton, Westborough, and Worcester.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone who is totally blind, legally blind, or has a visual impairment or any other physical handicaps that impair ability to access printed matter.

Hours of operation: 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: Several thousand.

Staff: 3. Director, Volunteer Coordinator, and Administrative Assistant. Over 150 volunteers.

Fee structure: No charge for the service, but receiver recipients are asked to give a donation within their means to defray the \$100 cost of the receiver.

Publications: Airwaves (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Member of International Association of Audio Information Services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Provides current print information on the secondary FM channel of WICN Public Radio and acts as a companion service to the Talking Book Library. Broadcasts twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. Publications read include local and national newspapers and magazines.

Boston College, Lynch School of Education: Teacher Education, Special Education, and Curriculum and Instruction Department

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Postsecondary institution
- Research organization

Campion Hall 211

Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

Tel: (617) 552-4180

(617) 552-1840 (Fax)

www.bc.edu/iehome/

Richard M. Jackson, Associate Professor, (617) 552-8429,
jacksonr@bc.edu

Susan Bruce, Coordinator, susan.bruce.1@bc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1863.

County/District where located: Middlesex County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Offers graduate (master's) level personnel preparation programs for teachers of learners who are deaf-blind and multiply disabled.

Boston University Eye Associates

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic

2005 Bay Street

Suite 201

Taunton, MA 02780

Tel: (508) 823-7473

(508) 824-3830 (Fax)

www.bumc.bu.edu/Departments/

HomeMain.asp?DepartmentID=367

E-mail: Jacques.Wehe@bmc.org

Gerald Friedman, Director, gerald.friedman@bmc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Middlesex County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Ophthalmologic report.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Thurs., Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, ophthalmology resident, optometrist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Braille and Talking Book Library, Perkins School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

175 North Beacon Street

Watertown, MA 02472

Tel: (800) 852-3133 (Toll-free in New England)

(617) 972-7240

(617) 972-7690 (TDD/TTY)

(617) 972-7363 (Fax)

www.perkinslibrary.org

E-mail: library@perkins.org

Kim Charlson, Regional Librarian, (617) 972-7249

Shelley Patterson, Collection Management Librarian,
(617) 972-7291

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality recreational and informational library services to legally blind, visually impaired, physically disabled, and learning disabled Massachusetts residents who are unable to read conventional print.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Dots and Decibels (newsletter).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Serves as information clearinghouse to connect people with resources and/or agencies.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, braille books, described videos, and Newslines service for blind and physically handicapped persons.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Worcester: Talking Book Library, Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, Worcester, MA 01608

Braille Authority of North America (BANA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Braille Co., Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer

65-B Town Hall Square

Falmouth, MA 02540

Tel: (508) 540-0800

(508) 548-6116 (Fax)

www.home.capecod.net/~brailinc

E-mail: braillinc@capecod.net

Josie P. Little, President/CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide speedy and accurate braille transcriptions, specializing in Nemeth, computer, foreign language, music and computer braille as well as literary code.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Barnstable.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Fee for service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: General interest, textbooks, computer manuals, training guides, schedules, charts, contracts, diagrams, foreign language, music, mathematics and scientific materials.

Carroll Center for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

770 Centre Street

Newton, MA 02458-2597

Tel: (800) 852-3131 (Toll-free in Massachusetts)

(617) 969-6200

(617) 969-6204 (Fax)

www.carroll.org/

E-mail: dinarosen@carroll.org

Rachel E. Rosenbaum, President,

rrosenbaum@carroll.org

Brian Charlson, Vice President, Computer Training,

charlsonb@carroll.org

Margaret Cleary, Director of Admissions,

mccleary@carroll.org

Richard Connors, Director of Community Mobility Services, rmconn@carroll.org

Rabih Dow, Director of Rehabilitation,

rabih@carroll.org

Arthur O'Neill, Vice President, Public Relations,

arthur@carroll.org

Dina Rosenbaum, Marketing Vice President,

dinarosen@carroll.org

Dr. Karen Ross, Director of Educational Services,

ross@carroll.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence of persons who are blind or visually impaired with rehabilitation, education and skills training, information and opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency and self-fulfillment.

Established: 1936.

County/District where located: Middlesex County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Massachusetts and New England, some referrals from other areas of the U.S. and international.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or blind consumers, some with secondary disabilities.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, some weekend and evening courses, recreational programs on weekends.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: 30 beds, semi-private rooms, meals provided.

Staff: 29 full-time, 16 part-time, 20 itinerant teacher consultants and mobility instructors. Uses volunteers. Optometrist, low vision assistant, social worker, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, ophthalmologist, psychologist, occupational therapist, rehabilitation counselor.

Fee structure: Most services are funded by public and federal funds.

Publications: Blindness-related publications by staff and alumni; computer training manuals.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Assistive Products, Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Professional Training, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides diagnostic and work assessments, worksite evaluation for adults and transition assessments for youth.

Assistive Products: Offers monthly demonstrations of low vision devices and adaptive equipment for daily living. Sells canes, magnifiers, sunglasses, and adapted devices for daily living through the state.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers training in communication skills, GED, ESL for students age 16 years and older.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers free orientation sessions offered monthly to prospective trainees and their families. Safe Home program provides assistance safeguarding the homes of blind or visually impaired seniors in order to help them maintain independence.

Computer Training: Individual, Group and Distance Learning training is provided. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, Microsoft Office applications, on-the-job training. Distance Education via the Internet.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides educational and technology consultations.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, and family sessions.

Education Services: Provides itinerant school-based special education instruction and support services for ages 3-21.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational assessments, training, counseling, and placement.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluations, demonstrations and loans.

Orientation and Mobility: Orientation and mobility training provided both at the Center and in the home or community.

Professional Training: Offers university internships, in-service and staff development network. Provides computer training for teachers on educational software, workshops and seminars for allied health professionals, technical training.

Recreation: Offers outdoor enrichment program for adults, skiing, skating, camping, sailing, bicycling, hiking. Offers a new Jump Up and Go children's exercise fitness program.

Rehabilitation: Offers 1-day or 2-week diagnostic evaluation; 4-16-week courses in independent living (low vision training, personal management, braille, typing, handwriting, tape recording, orientation and mobility, and sensory development); 4-8 week job preparation; 2-week skill training for elders.

Choroideremia Research Foundation

See U.S. National Organizations.

Descriptive Video Service: Media Access Group at WGBH

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

125 Western Avenue
Boston, MA 02134

Tel: (800) 333-1203 (Pre-recorded information line only)

(617) 300-3600 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(617) 300-1020 (Fax)

www.wgbh.org/access

E-mail: access@wgbh.org

Mary Watkins, Director of Outreach, Media Access Group at WGBH, mary_watkins@wgbh.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide spoken description of key visual elements in film, television and related media for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1972.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: DVS Guide, DVS Home Video Catalogue, Media Access Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: VHS cassettes of over 200 popular home video titles for sale via direct mail-order catalogue. On-line catalogue only to view.

Audiodescription: Makes television programs, feature films, home videos and other visual media accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired by providing descriptive narration. Produces audiodescription for PBS (Public Broadcasting Service) and TCM (Turner Classic Movies) as well as non-broadcast films and videos. Provides description in IMAX and OMNI MAX theatres as well as conventional movie theaters.

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach to blind and visually impaired consumers as well as parents, teachers, and the general public.

Ferguson Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

11 Highland Avenue
Malden, MA 02148

Tel: (617) 727-9840

(617) 576-6545 (Fax)

www.state.ma.us/mcb/ferguson.html

E-mail: David.Jansen@state.ma.us

Carol Sullivan, Program Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1906.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Employment: Employs blind and multidisabled blind individuals. Sells stationery and cleaning supplies produced in workshops.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Springfield: 59 Howard Street, Springfield, MA 01105, Earl L'Esperance

Greater Boston Aid to the Blind (GBAB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

1980 Centre Street

Boston, MA 02132-0002

Tel: (617) 323-5111

(617) 323-6687 (Fax)

www.gbab.org/

E-mail: eyeinfo@gbab.org

Annemarie Mark O'Hearn, Director of Community Health, OHearna@jgb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enrich the lives of visually impaired adults, age 50 and older, by serving their individual needs, and teaching them the skills they need to maintain their independence.

Established: 1912.

County/District where located: Suffolk.

Geographic area served: Greater Boston and central Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired and 50 years of age or older.

Ages served: 50 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 500.

Staff: 40. 8 full-time, 16 part-time and 16 independent contractors. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Medicare and Medicaid fees.

Publications: Assisting People with Vision Loss, an instructional pamphlet for caregivers.

Additional information: GBAB is a subsidiary of The Jewish Guild for the Blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Adaptive devices sold.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides vision and health education programs to visually impaired adults and all those who care for or work with visually impaired people in the community.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual and group counseling, information and referral, crisis intervention.

Health/Fitness: Offers arts therapy and physical education.

Health/Medical: Provides adult day health services for adults who have vision impairment and other multiple health conditions. Includes a comprehensive package of health care, social and mental health services in a congregate setting.

Information and Referral: Collaborates with other blindness, aging and health care providers.

Low Vision: Provides low vision examinations and training in daily living skills through both long-term and short-term programs.

Recreation: Offers arts therapy, bowling, woodworking, dressmaking, music, cooking, drama, knitting, crocheting, physical education, cultural enrichment program, weaving.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, typing, and home management skills. Has short-term training program available for

day program clients. Provides training in daily living skills for seniors through both long-term and short-term programs.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: New England Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

152 Lincoln Road

Lincoln, MA 01773

Tel: (781) 259-7100 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(781) 259-4246 (TDD/TTY)

(781) 259-4246 (Fax)

www.hknc.org/

E-mail: hknc1meb@aol.com

Mary E. Barbiasz, Regional Representative,

hknc1meb@aol.com

Mary Ann Biondo, Office Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies.

Geographic area served: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind and deaf.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Performs informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Hilton/Perkins Program of the Perkins School for the Blind

See U.S. National Organizations.

Joslin Diabetes Center

See U.S. National Organizations.

Large-Print Publishing Company

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Lowell Association for the Blind (LAB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Radio reading station

174 Central Street

Lowell, MA 01852

Tel: (978) 454-5704

(978) 458-5563 (TDD/TTY)

(978) 458-5563 (Fax)

www.lowellassociationfortheblind.org

E-mail: labinfo@lowellassociationfortheblind.org

Elizabeth M. Cannon, Executive Director,

ecannon@lowellassociationfortheblind.org

Patricia J. Brousseau, Adult Program Coordinator,

pbrousseau@lowellassociationfortheblind.org

Dorothy Donovan, Technology Instructor,

ddonovan@lowellassociationfortheblind.org

Beverly Haberman, Braille Instructor

Derek O. Lessieur, Volunteer Outreach Coordinator,

labinfo@lowellassociationfortheblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support, educate and nurture the blind and visually impaired of the Greater Merrimack Valley by assisting them in the enrichment of their lives and helping them to gain maximum independence. To stimulate the interest and education of the general public to the problems and issues facing the blind and visually impaired as productive members of society seeking fulfillment of their human potential.

Established: 1923.

County/District where located: Middlesex County.

Geographic area served: Greater Lowell, area northeast of Boston and Southern NH.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or functionally blind.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: 1 full-time, 5 part-time.

Publications: Newsletter/monthly schedule.

Additional information: LAB was founded in 1923 to serve the needs of people who are blind and visually impaired in the Greater Lowell area.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Recreation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Authorized agent for the Massachusetts Telephone Access Program. Distributes telephones at no or low cost to Massachusetts residents. Provide assistance with selecting and order other products including magnifiers and talking watches.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** DVS movies.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Offers advocacy and referral services.

Reading Services: Provides radio reading services as an affiliate of Massachusetts Radio Reading Network. Publications include the Lowell Sun, Lawrence Eagle-Tribune, Nashua Telegraph.

Recreation: Offers social and recreational activities for the elderly, working-age adults, and youth, including beep baseball and bowling. Publishes newsletter/monthly schedule of activities.

MAB Community Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency

200 Ivy Street

Brookline, MA 02446

Tel: (617) 738-5110

(617) 738-1247 (Fax)

www.mabcommunity.org

E-mail: ir@mabcommunity.org

Joseph Collins, CEO, jcollins@mabcommunity.org

Sally Rizzo, Statewide Director,

srizzo@mabcommunity.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a diverse range of programs and services to blind and visually impaired persons, multiply disabled adults and adolescents with brain injuries that foster self-reliance, equal opportunity, and independence.

Established: 1903.

Geographic area served: Primarily Massachusetts but braille and recording services also serve persons in other states.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment or print handicap capable of benefiting from provided services.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day residential services.

Community services Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible by public transportation, wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for students with brain injuries, residential apartments for adults (Brain Injury Community Services and MR Community Services programs only).

Staff: Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Modest fees for braille, tape.

Publications: Resource catalog (large print, cassette, computer disk, online), bi-monthly newsletter (large print, cassette).

Additional information: Services to persons who are blind or visually impaired are presented under the division name: Vision Community Services, MAB Community Services, in offices located in Watertown, Brockton, Worcester, and Springfield. No community services are provided from the corporate office in Brookline.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services, Volunteer Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** General.

Education Services: School and residential supports for adolescents with acquired brain injury.

Employment: Runs workshop to employ and train adults with mental retardation and blindness.

In-Home Services: Elder Rehabilitation Project teaches specialized in-home skills and provides adaptive equipment to elders first experiencing sight loss who are not legally blind.

Information and Referral: Responds to requests by telephone, mail, e-mail, and in person.

Low Vision: Low vision services provided in collaboration with the New England Eye Institute (in Springfield office only).

Orientation and Mobility: The Vision Habilitative Services Department provides Orientation and Mobility and Low Vision Services for adults with mental retardation and vision loss who live in the Metro Region of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation. Referrals should be sent by an individual's DMR Service Coordinator.

Rehabilitation: Offers activity program for adults with mental retardation and blindness: activities of daily living, communications skills, mobility and pre-vocational skills.

Support Groups: Offers Peer Support Groups for individuals coping with vision loss.

Volunteer Services: Community volunteers are matched statewide with consumers who are blind or visually impaired to assist with shopping, reading mail, writing checks, and friendly visiting. Transportation is provided by volunteers in Worcester and Springfield offices. Volunteers assist with leisure time activities in Worcester and Springfield offices.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Brockton: 130 Liberty Street, #7, Brockton, MA 02301

Springfield: 146 Chestnut Street, Suite 401, Springfield, MA 01103, Kobena Bonney, Springfield Regional Director, kbonney@mabcommunity.org

Watertown: 23A Elm Street, Watertown, MA 02472, Berni Engdahl, Greater Boston Regional Director, bengdahl@mabcommunity.org

Worcester: 799 West Boylston Street, Worcester, MA 01606, Carol Curdo, Worcester Regional Director, ccurdo@mabcommunity.org

Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Children's Center

1295 Boylston Street

Suite 310

Boston, MA 02115

Tel: (800) 848-8867 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state)
(617) 355-7820

(617) 355-7301 (TDD/TTY)

(617) 355-6345 (Fax)

www.matp.org

E-mail: matp@matp.org

Marilyn Howe, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower people to find the best assistive technology and training, explore funding options, and get educated about assistive technology (AT) issues.

Established: 1990.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter on project activities and on rights and resources; brochures, pamphlets, and training materials on assistive technology.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates for individuals in accessing funding for assistive technology. Monitors implementation of state and federal laws related to provision of assistive technology.

Community Outreach Programs: Coordinates an assistive technology conference and vendor fair, and collaborates with other organizations for additional conferences throughout the year.

Computer Training: Provides training and technical assistance in the use of assistive technology.

Information and Referral: Provides statewide information and referral on assistive technology products and services.

Legal Services: Provides referrals for legal advocacy on assistive technology.

Massachusetts Department of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Special Education Planning and Policy Development

350 Main Street

Malden, MA 02148

Tel: (781) 338-3375

www.doe.mass.edu

Madeline Levine, Comprehensive System of Personnel
Development Director, mlevine@doe.mass.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of the public education system so that students are adequately prepared for higher education, rewarding employment, continued education, and responsible citizenship.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Hours of operation: 8:45-5:00.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Oversees services to children with disabilities and enforces federal and other regulations concerning those services. Maintains contact with local resource and itinerant specialists in terms of local program monitoring and evaluation, technical assistance, and resolution of individual pupils' programming. Approves state and federal aid to local cities and towns for special programs, services, educational materials and equipment. The Department of Education is charged with the responsibility of ensuring improved teaching and learning in all of the Commonwealth's public schools.

Massachusetts Department of Education: Vision Resources Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

3 Randolph Street
Baylies Lower Building
Canton, MA 02021
Tel: (781) 575-1843
(781) 575-9601 (Fax)
www.mavisionlib.org
E-mail: cbrasier@mavisionlib.org
Carrie Brasier, Library Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Student must have current Individual Education Plan and be registered by certified teacher/consultant of visually impaired students.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-3:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides any and all specialized materials deemed essential for students with special educational needs. Materials available for loan include braillewriters, tape recorders, slate and styli, pre-braille and literacy kits, tactile tools, raised lined maps, braille and large type textbooks, standardized tests, assessment tools and materials available from the American Print House for the Blind.

Education Services: Provides educational materials in alternate formats for use by blind or visually impaired individuals.

Library: Maintains a library of media and materials for various curricula offered to visually impaired individuals.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health: Division for Special Health Needs, Early Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

250 Washington Street
4th Floor
Boston, MA 02108-4619
Tel: (617) 624-5962
(617) 624-5990 (Fax)
www.mass.gov/dph/fch/ei.htm
Ron Benham, Director and Part C Coordinator,
ron.benham@state.ma.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide care for children with special health care needs. To improve developmental outcomes for children who experience or are at risk of developmental delays.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Birth to age three, with developmental delays or disabilities, and their families.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Massachusetts' early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Offers comprehensive developmental evaluation, toddler groups, parent-child groups, home visits.
Information and Referral: Provides referral services.
Parent Assistance: Provides parent training and education, parent support groups.

Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

1 Ashburton Place
Fifth Floor
Boston, MA 02108
Tel: (800) 243-4636
(617) 727-7750
(800) 872-0166 (TDD/TTY)

(617) 727-9368 (Fax)

www.state.ma.us/elder

E-mail: elder.affairs@state.ma.us

Jennifer Davis Carey, Secretary, Elder Affairs

Marion Aspinall, SHINE Program Manager,

marion.aspinall@ma.state.ma

Annette Peele, Information and Referral,

annette.peele@ma.state.ma

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the dignity, independence, and rights of Massachusetts seniors and their families through advocacy and the development and management of programs and services.

Established: 1972.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, In-Home Services, Information and Referral to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts assessments on a case-by-case basis to determine individual needs.

In-Home Services: Provides home support, adaptive housing, home health, and meal services and other services.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to community-based resources for the elderly. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary: Vision Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Radio reading station

243 Charles Street

Boston, MA 02114

Tel: (617) 573-4177

(617) 573-4178 (Fax)

www.meei.harvard.edu/index.html

F. Curtis Smith, President

Paulette Turco, Associate Medical Director,

Paulette_Turco@meei.harvard.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help the vast majority of partially sighted people learn to use their remaining visual capacity to its fullest and to be as independent as possible.

Established: 1824.

Eligibility requirements: People whose best corrected vision does not permit reading or other visual activities. Includes people who have corrected visual acuity in the better eye of 20/50 or less, and/or a field of vision of 20 degrees or less. Medical eye exam completed within the past 12 months required.

Ages served: 3 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 2200.

Staff: 13. Rehabilitation professionals, including ophthalmologists, optometrists, occupational therapists and clinical social workers. Volunteers support the library services and are available as escorts.

Fee structure: Fees are based on the amount of services provided. Many services are covered by third-party insurance. Individuals should contact their insurer about coverage. Some patients may be eligible for financial assistance based on their disability.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells prescription eyeglasses and magnifiers, special lamps and writing guides, telescopes, large print playing cards, talking watches, and automatic needle threaders, and a full line of reading machines.

Counseling: Assists patients and their families to overcome the grief and stress associated with the loss of function, and to help them adjust to their vision changes.

Information and Referral: Coordinates referrals with state and community agencies and identifies financial resources.

Library: Maintains a library where patients and families can learn about large print books, books on tape, community services, radio reading services, and eye disorders which cause vision loss.

Low Vision: Evaluates, fits, trains, and dispenses assistive devices where patients can successfully learn to use their remaining vision.

Professional Training: Trains ophthalmology and physical medicine and rehabilitation residents, occupational therapists, nurses and professionals from around the world.

Massachusetts Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

260 Peakham Road

Sudbury, MA 01776

Tel: (617) 426-2020

(978) 443-5677 (Fax)

www.msseps.com

E-mail: lsmseps@msn.com

Leta Serafim, Executive Director, lsmseps@msn.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve the total visual health care needs of Massachusetts residents through education, membership services, and legislative advocacy.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Middlesex County.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00AM-5:00PM.
Publications: MSEPS Membership Referral Directory. Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides screening for visual activity.
Information and Referral: Provides referrals to ophthalmologists in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts Society of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1071 Worcester Road
 Suite 12
 Framingham, MA 01701-5298
 Tel: (508) 875-7900
 (508) 875-0100 (Fax)
 www.massoptom.org
 E-mail: info@massoptom.org
 Richard Lawless, Contact Person, rich@massoptom.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the quality, availability, and accessibility of eye, vision, and related health care.
Established: 1912.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in community programs, such as the VISION USA program, that benefit segments of the population that have not had access to regular eye care.

Massachusetts State Commission for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

48 Boylston Street
 Boston, MA 02116
 Tel: (800) 392-6450
 (617) 727-5550
 (800) 392-6556 (TDD/TTY)
 (617) 626-7685 (Fax)
 www.mass.gov/mcb
 David P. Govostes, Commissioner,
 david.govostes-mcb@state.ma.us
 Joseph Lazzaro, Director, Technology Program, (617)
 626-7575, joseph.lazzaro@state.ma.us
 Cheryl Standley, Director, Bridge Program,
 Cheryl.Standley@state.ma.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer the federal-state vocational rehabilitation program, Title XX, Title XIX, and Supplemental Security Income for the blind. To provide

services for totally blind, legally blind, multiply handicapped blind, children under 6 years old with vision impairment.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:45 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: 250 full-time, 16 part-time.

Publications: Focal Point.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers after-school program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, family/parent, couple counseling, social evaluation, placement in school, training. Contracts and refers for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Offers career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, sheltered workshop, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending stand training. Contracts and provides consultation to other agencies for other employment services.

Health/Medical: Contracts, refers for and provides consultation to other agencies on health services.

Library: Lends talking book record players and cassette players.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies on recreation services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, listening typing, and home management skills and sensory training in client's home and community. Provides training in the use of the Optacon and electronic mobility aids. Contracts and provides consultation to other agencies for other rehabilitation services. Provides independent living and support services for seniors.

LOCAL OFFICES

New Bedford: 800 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

Springfield: 1694 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01130

Worcester: 340 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Rehabilitation agency**

1010 Harrison Avenue

Boston, MA 02119

Tel: (617) 445-1010

www.goodwillmass.org/framesg.htm

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To equip individuals with the tools necessary to meet new challenges and create more rewarding and independent lives through three program areas, Workforce and Job Training Programs, Retail and Recycled Goods Enterprises, and Youth Services.

Established: 1895.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals who face a variety of barriers to employment and self-sufficiency, including physical and/or cognitive disabilities, illiteracy, homelessness, inadequate education and welfare dependency.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations, public funds, workshop sales.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides job training and vocational programs for 1,200 people in 110 Massachusetts communities. Provides on-the-job training and job opportunities to 500 trainees in retail program, recycled goods program and other worksite enterprises.

National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Birth Defects Center (NBDC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Braille Press (NBP)

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

New England Eye Institute: Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Low vision center/clinic**

1255 Boylston Street

Boston, MA 02215

Tel: (617) 262-2020

(617) 236-6323 (Fax)

www.ne-eyeinstitute.org/needi_home_800.asp

E-mail: nsey@aol.com

Louis A. Frank, Chief of Low Vision Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral.

Hours of operation: Tues. 8:30 AM-8:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: Optometrist, optometry student/resident, low vision assistant, ophthalmologist, optician, and O&M instructor.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers residency in binocular vision.

New England Home for the Deaf (Aged, Blind or Infirm)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Residential facility**

154 Water Street

Danvers, MA 01923

Tel: (978) 774-0445

E-mail: info@anyhomedeaf.com

Judith Good, President/CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide residential and health services for older deaf or deaf-blind adults.

County/District where located: Essex County.

Geographic area served: New England.

Eligibility requirements: Deaf or deaf-blind.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities for deaf or deaf-blind women and men, 50 years of age or older.

Funded by: Endowments, private donations, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Housing Services, Low Vision Services, Recreation Services to older persons.

Health/Medical: Nursing services provided.

Housing Services: Provides residential nursing home residential services for deaf and deaf-blind adults over the age of 50. Nursing, recreational, and low vision services available.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Recreation: Offers social and leisure activities for deaf, deaf-blind elderly clients.

Northeast Vision Consultants

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

P.O. Box 267

Sharon, MA 02185

Tel: (617) 784-0642

(617) 784-0642 (Fax)

E-mail: nvc@sharon.k12.ma.us

Timothy Traut-Savino, Vice President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide consultant services/orientation and mobility for visually impaired children and adults at home, at school, and at other agencies.

Geographic area served: Eastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or visually impaired.

Staff: 2 full-time, 11 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Refers for psychological testing and evaluation, individual/group/family/couple counseling.

Education Services: Offers K-12, assessment, program planning, direct/indirect services.

Employment: Provides career/skill counseling; refers for pre-vocational evaluation, job retention/training, occupational skill development.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Operates nursery school.

Professional Training: Offers training/supervised fieldwork in low vision (BS/MA), orientation and mobility (MA), special education (MA).

Recreation: Refers for after-school programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides on- and off-site training in daily living and communication skills.

Occupational Rehabilitation Group

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

Harvard Square

P.O. Box 382037

Cambridge, MA 02238

Tel: (617) 661-5667

(781) 925-2847 (Fax)

E-mail: JRobichaud@worldnet.att.net

John Robichaud, Rehabilitation Engineer,
jrobichaud@worldnet.att.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide vocational rehabilitation services, including rehabilitation engineering, vocational evaluation, and employer services to persons with visual impairments and other disabilities.

Established: 1976.

Geographic area served: New England.

Eligibility requirements: Must either be eligible for state/federal vocational rehabilitation services or be supported by employer, insurance or other third-party source.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Services provided at the workplace or in client's home.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults on accommodations in the work place for disabled workers.

Employment: Rehabilitation engineering services provided at the work place include job analysis, job modification, job placement, work accommodation. Jaws scripting services available.

Perkins School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ School for the blind

175 North Beacon Street

Watertown, MA 02472

Tel: (617) 924-3434

(617) 926-2027 (Fax)

www.Perkins.org

E-mail: Info@Perkins.org

Steven M. Rothstein, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help children and adults who are blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind reach their greatest possible independence.

Established: 1829.

Geographic area served: New England and developing countries.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24/7.

Residential Facilities: 15 cottages with kitchen and living facilities.

Clients served annually: 40,000.

Staff: 700.

Publications: Perkins produces publications in English and Spanish for families and professionals who work with people who are visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Administers diagnostic testing and evaluation for individuals who are blind, deaf-blind, and multi-handicapped from Massachusetts and other states.

Assistive Products: Howe Press manufactures and sells the Perkins Braille and other products for people who are blind or visually impaired. Perkins also produces publications in English and Spanish for families and professionals who work with people who are visually impaired.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Community Outreach Programs: Provides clinical evaluation and functional vision assessments throughout New England to assist individuals of all ages in making optimal use of their vision.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation, technical assistance and training for the development of programs and services for children who are deaf-blind or multihandicapped blind in the United States and in developing countries through the Hilton/Perkins Program. Provides consultation services to professionals and agencies that provide direct services for children who are deaf-blind and their families throughout New England. Provides consultation to community-based early intervention programs.

Counseling: Provides consultation, counseling, conferences and in-service training for parents and families.

Early Intervention: Provides home-based assessment and training for infants and toddlers.

Education Services: Provides educational training opportunities for students from birth to 22 years of age.

Employment: Provides training in pre-vocational skills.

Library: Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library provides free services in braille, audio and large print formats to 18,000 patrons. Samuel B. Hayes Research Library offers the most recent and complete sources of information on the non-medical aspects of blindness and deafblindness.

Low Vision: Provides clinical vision examinations and visual-skills training. Also provides optical or nonoptical and electronic vision devices free of charge.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Has day and evening parent groups.

Preschool: Does evaluations and provides individualized instruction and support services for children ages 3-6.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills, social skills, orientation and mobility. Provides outreach services, rehabilitation teaching, evaluation, and training for elders who are legally blind.

Prevent Blindness Massachusetts

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

100 Cummings Center

Suite 330C

Beverly, MA 01915-9500

Tel: (978) 524-9500

(978) 922-2300 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org

E-mail: preventblind@aol.com

Alan M. Cregg, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health, and eye safety free of charge.

Library: Maintains a full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

Radio Reading Service GW

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

285 Dorset Street

Springfield, MA 01108

Tel: (413) 747-7337 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(413) 736-7282 (Fax)

E-mail: kdurocher@goodwill-spfld-htfrd.org

Kevin C. Durocher, Director,

kdurocher@goodwill-spfld-htfrd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for visually impaired and print handicapped persons through broadcast services which provide educational, informational, entertaining, and timely news programming.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Hampden County.

Geographic area served: Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Additional information: A business service unit of Goodwill Industries.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides speakers for low vision and other relevant groups to apprise of details of radio reading services in community. Dispenses pamphlets in public areas.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides pre-tuned receiver in school classroom upon request of teacher.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to community health resources for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, books, magazines over radio receivers for the blind. Publications include the Springfield Republican Greenfield Record, West Springfield Record, Journal Register, Agawam Advertiser and much more.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Boston Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

58 Charles Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Tel: (800) 221-4792
(617) 577-1111
(617) 577-1113 (Fax)
E-mail: info@rfbd.org

Christina Raimo, Executive Director, traimo@rfbd.org
Ted Washburn, Studio Director, twashburn@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational materials, such as textbooks and reference materials, to people who cannot effectively read standard print.

County/District where located: Middlesex County.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Must have documented print disabilities.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, government grants, private donations, state funds.

Fee structure: \$25 annual fee, \$50 registration fee.

Publications: Newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sale of adapted playbook equipment available through national headquarters for members.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Academic textbooks.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to local schools using audio textbooks.

Library: Maintains an educational library with over 80,000 taped textbooks, reference and professional materials.

Professional Training: Offers teacher training in use of audio textbooks.

Resources for Rehabilitation

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Schepens Eye Research Institute (SERI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Schepens Retina Associates: Low Vision Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

1 Autumn Street
6th Floor
Boston, MA 02215
Tel: (617) 632-7777
(617) 632-7770 (Fax)
www.schepens.com
E-mail: sra@schepens.com

William Riordan, Office Manager, wgr@macula.com
Carolyn Bellefeuille, Marketing Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be a vital nonprofit organization focusing on research, education, and patient care in the area of eye disease and vision rehabilitation.

Established: 1951.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: Boston metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Referral, fee-for-service.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, ophthalmology residents, optometrist, optician, low vision assistant, social worker, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, special educator, occupational therapist, psychologist/counselor, rehabilitation counselor, genetic counselor, audiologist, bioengineers, psychophysicists.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Health/Medical: Provides low vision rehabilitation and clinical testing for eye diseases. Provides treatment for age-related macular degeneration.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Sight Line Productions (Sight Line for the Blind)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

505 Paradise Road
Suite 200
Swampscott, MA 01907
Tel: (781) 595-9800
(781) 595-9800 (Fax)
www.sightlinefortheblind.com/
E-mail: brlbydesign@comcast.net
Pamela S. Sudore, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide custom braille and large print design for nonprofit organizations, businesses and community groups that provide access to blind and visually impaired individuals and groups.

Established: 1989.

Geographic area served: National.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM or by appointment.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: Some work is subcontracted.

Publications: New Vision Maps & Kits, and Holiday greeting cards.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Brochures, forms, menus, charts, diagrams, business cards, floor plans, greeting cards, New Vision Maps & Kits.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to other agencies and individuals in designing mobility maps. Offers workshops on braille, mobility and New Vision maps.

Talking Book Library at Worcester Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ National Library Service library

3 Salem Square
Worcester, MA 01608-2074
Tel: (800) 762-0085 (Toll-free in Massachusetts)
(508) 799-1730
(508) 799-1724 (TDD/TTY)
(508) 799-1656 (Fax)
www.worcpublib.org/talkingbook
E-mail: talkbook@cwmar.org
James Izatt, Librarian, jizatt@cwmar.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as a forum for ideas. The library, dedicated to freedom of access to information for all, strives to meet the educational, occupational, personal, recreational and cultural needs of its diverse community.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Worcester County.

Geographic area served: Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 1 to 100.

Hours of operation: Tues.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM; Fri.-Sat. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM; Closed Monday.

Accessibility: Newly renovated and expanded facility (2001) meets ADA requirements for access.

Budget: \$318,777.

Clients served annually: 3200.

Staff: 6. Two professional librarians. Four paraprofessionals.

Fee structure: Free service to qualified individuals.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Massachusetts subregional library of the Library of Congress NLS/BPH network.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Loans recorded reading materials and the necessary playback equipment, as well as large-print books, print/braille books and described videos to eligible individuals who are unable to read print books or manage conventional videos due to a disability.

Talking Information Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

130 Enterprise Drive
Marshfield, MA 02050
Tel: (800) 696-9505 (Nationwide Toll Free.)
(781) 834-4400
(781) 834-7716 (Fax)
www.ticnetwork.com
E-mail: general@ticnetwork.com
Ron P. Bersani, Executive Director,
rbersani@ticnetwork.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide radio reading services 24 hours a day.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Plymouth County.

Geographic area served: All of Massachusetts and New Hampshire and parts of Connecticut, Vermont, and Maine.

Eligibility requirements: Must exhibit a print or visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Budget: \$650,000.

Clients served annually: 20,000.

Fee structure: Receiver cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts newspapers, magazines, books, and other printed material 24 hours a day.

Michigan

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Michigan Commission for the Blind:
Department of Labor & Economic Growth
(800) 292-4200

Michigan Commission for the Blind Training
Center
(800) 292-4200

Michigan Office of Services to the Aging
(517) 373-8230

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Michigan Department of Education: Office of
Special Education and Early Intervention
Services
(888) 320-8384

Educational Services

Michigan Department of Education: Office of
Special Education and Early Intervention
Services
(888) 320-8384

Instructional Materials Center

Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Low
Incidence Outreach
(800) 622-6730

Rehabilitation Services

Michigan Commission for the Blind:
Department of Labor & Economic Growth
(800) 292-4200

Michigan Commission for the Blind Training
Center
(800) 292-4200

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Michigan Association of Transcribers for the Visually
Impaired
Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund
Readings for the Blind
Recording For The Blind & Dyslexic: Michigan Unit
Temple Beth El Braille Bindery: Tri-County Braille
Volunteers

Dog Guide Schools

Leader Dogs for the Blind

Educational Agencies

Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service
District

Michigan's Assistive Technology Resource

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Blind Children's Fund
Penrickton Center for Blind Children

Information/Referral Centers

Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually
Impaired
Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Low
Incidence Outreach

Libraries

Detroit Subregional Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped, Frederick Douglass Branch
for Specialized Services, Detroit Public Library (NLS)

Grand Traverse Area Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 Kent District Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 Library of Michigan: Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 Mideastern Michigan Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Talking Book Center (NLS)
 Muskegon County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 Northland Library Cooperative (NLS)
 Oakland County Library for the Visually and Physically Impaired (NLS)
 Special Technologies Alternative Resources, St. Clair County Library (NLS)
 Upper Peninsula Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (NLS)
 Wayne County Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Beaumont Eye Institute: Low Vision Center
 Ferris State University: Michigan College of Optometry, Low Vision Services
 Henry Ford Visual Rehabilitation and Research Center
 Low Vision and Visual Rehabilitative Services:
 University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center
 Michigan Optometric Association
 North Bay Ophthalmology: Low Vision Clinic
 Sinai Hospital: Vision Rehabilitation Institute
 Western Michigan University: Vision Rehabilitation Clinic

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Michigan Ophthalmological Society
 Michigan Optometric Association

National Publishers

Seedlings Braille Books for Children

Postsecondary Institutions

Eastern Michigan University: Department of Special Education
 Western Michigan University: Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies

Radio Reading Stations

Detroit Radio Information Service
 Sight Seer (West Michigan Radio Reading Service)
 WKAR Radio Talking Book

Rehabilitation Agencies

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Detroit Receiving Hospital and University Health Center: Visually Handicapped Services
 Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit
 Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan
 Goodwill of Southwestern Michigan
 Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Midwest Enterprises for the Blind
 Visually Impaired Center

Research Organizations

Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology

Residential Facilities

Welcome Home for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Michigan Assistive Technology Project

Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

2118 US 23 South
 Alpena, MI 49707
 Tel: (989) 354-3101
 (989) 356-3385 (Fax)
 www.amaesd.k12.mi.us

Thomas G. Miller, Director of Special Education,
 millert@amaesd.k12.mi.us
 Laura Gahl, Early On Coordinator,
 gohll@amaesd.k12.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and enhance life-long learning for area residents.

Established: 1963.

Geographic area served: Alpena, Montmorency and Alcona Counties.

Eligibility requirements: IDEA or Michigan Special Education eligibility. Also 504 eligibility.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses students for eligibility for special education.

Computer Training: Training for instructors.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations to teachers.

Early Intervention: Oversees home programs and PPI classrooms.

Education Services: Operates the Pied Piper Opportunity Center for students with developmental and physical impairments.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Alpena: Pied Piper Opportunity Center, 444 Wilson Street, Alpena, MI 49707, Brian G. Wilmot

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

456 Cherry Street, SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Tel: (800) 466-8084

(616) 458-1187

(616) 458-7113 (Fax)

www.abvimichigan.org

E-mail: blindser@onramp.12k.com

Richard Stevens, Executive Director,
rstevens@abvimichigan.org

Charis Austin, Client Advocate

Michelle Cameron, Orientation and Mobility Instructor

Rosemary Cruz, Outreach Coordinator

Linda Haven, Rehabilitation Teacher

Kathy Konow, Rehabilitation Teacher

George Kremer, Director of Rehabilitation Services,
gkremer@abvimichigan.org

John A. McElheron, Social Worker, Muskegon Local
Branch

Nancy Pagan, Support Services, Glaucoma Alert
Program

Amy Schreiner, Orientation and Mobility Instructor

Karolina Smiley, Rehabilitation Teacher

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the independence of people who are visually impaired and to promote the prevention of blindness.

Established: 1913.

County/District where located: Kent County.

Geographic area served: 13 counties in western Michigan, surrounding the Grand Rapids area.

Eligibility requirements: Visual problems causing difficulty in daily living, referral by ophthalmologist or optometrist.

Ages served: 1 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Examinations by appointment only.

Accessibility: Facility is accessible.

Staff: 11 full-time, 2 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Ophthalmologist, optometrist, social worker, orientation and mobility instructor, rehabilitation teacher.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

Publications: Tips for Living with Low Vision, From My Heart to Your Heart, Health Care Workers Guide, To My Server.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services, Low Vision Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Provides low vision examinations and assesses individual's level of functioning in daily living skills.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision aids and devices. Products are available for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Menus, church hymns, birthday cards, etc.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to at-risk populations and provides consultations to schools and nursing homes.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation, individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling. Provides referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

In-Home Services: Provides in-home follow-ups for seniors.

Information and Referral: Refers for other health services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service training programs and workshops.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts activities. Provides consultation to other agencies on other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides all rehabilitation services in client's home and community (except low vision clinic): personal management, braille, handwriting, listening skills, typing, home management, and remedial education.

Support Groups: Provides support groups for seniors.

Beaumont Eye Institute: Low Vision Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

3535 West 13 Mile Road
Suite 555
Royal Oak, MI 48073
Tel: (248) 551-2020
(248) 551-2267 (Fax)
www.beaumont-hospitals.com/pls/portal30/cportal30.webpage?l_recent=ophthalmology_home
Susan A. Hahn, Director, Low Vision Services
Andrea Nielsen, OD, Director, Contact Lens Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.
County/District where located: Oakland County.
Geographic area served: Michigan.
Eligibility requirements: Referral from ophthalmologist or optometrist or an agency.
Ages served: 2 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.
Funded by: Client fees.
Staff: Two optometrists certified in low vision.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.
Assistive Products: Sells magnifiers, spectacle-mounted and hand-held telescopes. Products available on site.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up by two optometrists certified in low vision by state. Performs low vision evaluations of seniors.
Rehabilitation: Offers home activities of daily living training for seniors through hospital outpatient occupational therapy department.
Support Groups: Oversees a support group for individuals with low vision.

Blind Children's Fund (BCF)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

311 W. Broadway
Suite 1
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Tel: (989) 779-9966
(989) 779-0015 (Fax)
www.blindchildrensfund.org
E-mail: bcb@blindchildrensfund.org
Karla B. Storrer, Executive Director,
karla@blindchildrensfund.org
Lauri Bauer Hovey, Administrative Assistant,
lauri@blindchildrensfund.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide parents and professionals with information, materials, and resources to help them successfully teach and nurture blind, visually impaired and multi-impaired infants and preschool children.
Established: 1978.
County/District where located: Isabella County.
Geographic area served: Worldwide.
Eligibility requirements: Must be visually impaired.
Ages served: 0 to 21.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Accessible.
Budget: \$100,000.
Staff: 3.
Fee structure: Fees for materials.
Publications: VIP Newsletter. Parent books and materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells books, toys, videotapes, and audiotapes. Products for sale on site and online.
Education Services: Provides educational materials for use by parents and teachers.
Library: Maintains a library of books and resources for parents and professionals.
Parent Assistance: Responds to requests on an individual basis.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Auburn: 403 V Street SE, Auburn, WA 98002, Didi Duncan, Resource Center

Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

15415 East Jefferson Avenue
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
Tel: (313) 824-4710
(313) 822-4233 (Fax)
www.eyeson.org

Judith A. Dara, Executive Director
Philip C. Hessburg, M.D., President, Board of Directors,
PHessburg@mycomcast.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the support and tools necessary to enhance independence for the visually impaired and blind; develop career opportunities in the allied health field that will provide better trained, caring ophthalmic technicians; and help provide answers that will preserve vision now lost through eye disease.
Established: 1972.
County/District where located: Wayne County.
Geographic area served: Metropolitan Detroit and tri-county area.
Eligibility requirements: Education program has requirements. Call for catalog.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible, wheelchair ramp, and braille signage in elevator.

Staff: 4 full-time, 5 part-time.

Fee structure: No fee for support groups.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision devices. Products for sale on site.

Professional Training: Offers 2-year education program for ophthalmic assistants, technicians, and technologists.

Reading Services: Grosse Pointe News.

Support Groups: Offers support groups for visually impaired seniors and workshops in daily living skills.

Detroit Radio Information Service (DRIS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

4600 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48201

Tel: (313) 577-4146

(313) 577-1300 (Fax)

www.wdetfm.org/dris/

E-mail: dris@wdetfm.org

Kim Walsh, Director, kwalsh@wdetfm.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide timely printed matter and consumer information to the blind, physically disabled, and cognitively disabled residents of southeastern Michigan and to provide quality programs designed to help those individuals live enriched, productive, and independent lives.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Southeast Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Unable to read printed materials due to frailty, visual impairment or physical disability.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: Many volunteers.

Fee structure: Donations accepted. Sliding scale for institutions.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from more than 100 newspapers, magazines, plus other programming.

Detroit Receiving Hospital and University Health Center: Visually Handicapped Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

Visually Handicapped Services

Detroit Receiving Hospital

4201 St. Antoine

Detroit, MI 48201

Tel: (313) 745-4510

(313) 745-4120 (Fax)

Karen L. Arendall, Manager, karendal@dmc.org

Alice Landino, Mobility Instructor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind and legally blind persons.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Ages served: 16 to 90.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage.

Clients served annually: 140.

Staff: 5.5 full-time, 4 contingent.

Fee structure: Cost is covered by a grant with the Michigan Commission for the Blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Education Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Evaluates clients' basic skills to determine course of training.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille, handwriting, and typing.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers peer counseling and community integration support for seniors.

Education Services: Offers college assessment.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation and career counseling.

Information and Referral: Shares information and refers to appropriate services.

Library: Maintains library of talking book record and cassette players, talking book cassettes, braille books, braille magazines, and large-print books.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Makes arrangements for summer camp attendance.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and home management. Provides training in the use of computerized speech synthesis, video magnifier, and optical page scanner. Refers for other rehabilitation services. Distributes canes without charge to legally blind persons upon request. Provides commonly used aids and devices to students without charge. Trains clients in use of Newline for the Blind of Michigan and in use of Detroit Radio Information Service.

Detroit Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Frederick Douglass Branch for Specialized Services, Detroit Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

3666 Grand River Avenue

Detroit, MI 48208-2880

Tel: (313) 833-5494

(313) 833-5492 (TDD/TTY)

(313) 832-5597 (Fax)

www.detroit.lib.mi.us/special_services.htm

Dori V. Middleton, LBPH Specialist, (313) 833-5497,

dmiddle@detroit.lib.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: That all may read.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Detroit and Highland Park (Wayne County).

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual or physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon./Weds./Sat. 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Tues. and Thurs. 12:00 PM-8:00 PM. Summer hours: Closed Sat., open Fri.

Publications: IN FOCUS Newsletter published quarterly.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Eastern Michigan University: Department of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Postsecondary institution**

128 Porter

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Tel: (734) 487-3300

(734) 487-2473 (Fax)

www.emich.edu/

Alicia Li, Visual Impairment Program Specialist,
tli@emich.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Washtenaw County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate and graduate (master's) program for teachers of visually impaired students.

Ferris State University: Michigan College of Optometry, Low Vision Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

1310 Cramer Circle

Room 501

Big Rapids, MI 49307

Tel: (231) 591-2222

Walter Betts, Chief, Low Vision Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision services within the educational clinic of Ferris State University's College of Optometry.

County/District where located: Mecosta County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Hours of operation: Weds. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Optometrist on staff.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

3111 Grand River Avenue

Detroit, MI 48208-2962

Tel: (313) 964-3900

(313) 964-4274 (Fax)

www.goodwilldetroit.org/

E-mail: info@goodwilldetroit.org

Joe Evans, Director, Career Center

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide people who have disabilities and other barriers to employment with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience, and employment in the community.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, and Livingston Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Persons who are blind or have low vision or who may have a mental illness, a

developmental disability, HIV or AIDS, a criminal record or a history of substance abuse. Also persons who have been chronically unemployed.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Completely accessible to persons who are blind or have visual impairments. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$16,000,000.

Clients served annually: 5,900 persons served per year.

Staff: 200. Vocational rehabilitation staff, employment training specialists, case managers, occupational therapists, rehabilitation counselors, job developers.

Fee structure: Services are free for those who meet program eligibility requirements.

Publications: Vision Community Newsletter, Annual Report, Web Site: www.goodwilldetroit.org.

Additional information: CARF accredited, Medicaid certified, ISO/QS 9000 registered. Facilitated over 800 competitive job placements in 2003.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Employment to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides speakers to address civic organizations, students, businesses.

Employment: Offers a wide array of services including skills training, job placement, retention, and occupational training. Services include paid work experience, job readiness, skills development, transitional employment, job development, and job placement.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in employment skills.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Westland: Wayne County Employment and Training, 28526 Van Born Road, Westland, MI 48185, tatkinson@goodwilldetroit.org

Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

501 South Averill Avenue
Flint, MI 48506

Tel: (800) 524-6331

(810) 762-9960

(810) 762-9957 (Fax)

www.goodwill.org

Gary K. Smith, President/CEO, gimm@voyager.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To achieve the full participation in society of persons with disabilities and other individuals with special needs.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Genesee County.

Geographic area served: Bay, Genesee, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, Shiawasee, Arenac, Iosco, and Tuscola Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Any person age 16 or older with a disabling or disadvantaging condition.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Staff: 3 full-time, 1 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides consultation and referral services.

Employment: Offers evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, placement and follow-up. Operates sheltered workshop.

Rehabilitation: Offers special program in vocational rehabilitation for persons who are multiply disabled and blind. Includes work adjustment, daily living, and orientation and mobility.

Goodwill of Southwestern Michigan

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2700 Pitcher Street

Kalamazoo, MI 49004

Tel: (269) 382-0490 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(269) 382-0490 (TDD/TTY)

(269) 382-6836 (Fax)

www.goodwillswmi.org

E-mail: dfrey@goodwillswmi.org

John Dillworth, President & CEO, (616) 382-0490, jdillworth@goodwillswmi.org

Dennis Frey, VP, dfrey@goodwillswmi.org

Gary Miller, Director, Information Technology, [gmiller@goodwillswmi.org](mailto:gmillerr@goodwillswmi.org)

Marlene Schwartz, Computer Skills Training Manager, (269) 337-3757, (269) 337-3872 (Fax), schwartzm@state.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide education, training and employment services to people who live with disabling conditions and other special needs to maximize their employment potential.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Kalamazoo, MI.

Geographic area served: Kalamazoo, Allegan, Van Buren, St. Joseph, Cass, and Berrien Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Referral from Michigan Commission for the Blind, Michigan Works!, Michigan Rehabilitation Services or other state/federal agencies.

Ages served: 16 to 99.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Total accessibility.

Budget: \$6,500,000.

Clients served annually: 3500.

Staff: 200.

Fee structure: Varies.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Helps individuals define and achieve realistic career goals through the following rehabilitation activities: career assessment, career exploration and work evaluation; work readiness and work adjustment; paid work experience and sheltered employment; computer skills training and adaptive technology; employment resource room; personal empowerment training; job-seeking skills training, job search, job club and individual placement; job developing and job retention services.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Kalamazoo: Commission for the Blind Training Center, 1541 Oakland Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Grand Traverse Area Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

610 Woodmere Avenue
Traverse City, MI 49686-3397
Tel: (877) 931-8558
(231) 932-8558
(231) 932-8507 (TDD/TTY)
(231) 932-8578 (Fax)
www.tadl.tcnet.org/index/lbph.htm
E-mail: lbph@tadl.tcnet.org
Kathy Kelto, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Grand Traverse County.

Geographic area served: Antrim, Benzie, Crawford, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Roscommon, and Wexford Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Clients served annually: 860.

Staff: 3.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Rehabilitation agency

16625 Grand River Avenue
Detroit, MI 48227
Tel: (313) 272-3900
(313) 272-6893 (Fax)
www.upshawinst.org/
E-mail: webmaster@upshawinst.org
Gail L. McEntee, Executive Director,
mcentee@upshawinst.org
Stephan Holmes, Projects Manager
Mary Beth Kullen, Information Specialist,
webmaster@upshawinst.org
Ollie Lester, Case Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality innovative services that increase self-reliance, productivity and dignity for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1961.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Southeastern Michigan counties of Wayne, Macomb, Oakland, Livingston, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Monroe.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, blind, and visually impaired persons.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 12. Certified rehabilitation teacher, certified O&M instructor, qualified social worker, and I&R, rehabilitation teaching, and communications professionals.

Publications: Information about eye diseases, eye safety, newsletter.

Additional information: United Way Agency, accredited by National Accreditation Council of Agencies Serving the Visually Handicapped (NAC).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers individualized rehabilitation assessment to determine instructional needs.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation concerning blindness/visual impairment to other agencies.

Counseling: Offers psychosocial assessment, individual and group counseling, referral to community resources. Serves family members as well as clients. Offers specialized services for children include parent counseling and school consultation.

Employment: Provides consultation, specialized information services related to blind/visually impaired employment.

Health/Medical: Offers prevention of blindness and public education programs.

Information and Referral: Collects and disseminates information of interest to people who are blind or visually impaired or who provide services to people with visual impairments. Provides consultation to other agencies where blindness is a secondary disability.

Parent Assistance: Provides family counseling services.

Professional Training: Offers internships/fieldwork placements for rehabilitation teaching and social work and in-service workshops and training opportunities.

Recreation: Has a deaf-blind club for social interaction and ongoing case management services.

Rehabilitation: Provides individual and group rehabilitation teaching in client's home, doctor's office or the community. Offers personal adjustment training, communications systems and media, home management, follow-up training for low vision clinical therapies, orientation and mobility training, low vision rehab training. Refers for other vision resources.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: North Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Illinois.

Henry Ford Visual Rehabilitation and Research Center (VRRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

29200 Schoolcraft

Livonia, MI 48150

Tel: (734) 523-1070

(734) 523-1080 (Fax)

Lylas G. Mogk, MD, Medical Director,

lmogk1@hfhs.org

Anne T. Riddering, OTR, COMS, CLVT, Director of

Occupational Therapy, aridder1@hfhs.org

Monica Sanders, Office Manager, msander1@hfhs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure the independence of adults with vision loss by providing individualized, comprehensive low vision evaluations and vision rehabilitation training.

Established: 1997.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Michigan and neighboring states.

Eligibility requirements: Functional difficulties secondary to vision loss.

Ages served: 5 to 110.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. at center. Some home visits evenings and weekends also.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 13. Ophthalmologist and optometrist specializing in low vision evaluations, seven occupational therapists who are also CLVTs and one is also an O&M, a certified ophthalmic technician, a scanning laser ophthalmoscope technician, a patient care coordinator and an office manager.

Fee structure: Reimbursed by Medicare and other medical insurances. Patients also referred and funded by the State Commission for the Blind.

Publications: Macular Degeneration: The Complete Guide to Saving and Maximizing Your Sight, by Lylas Mogk MD and Marja Mogk, PhD (Ballantine, 2003).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Counseling, Health/Medical, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses visual status, scotomas, functional status, and rehabilitative and emotional needs.

Assistive Products: Loaners supplied and arrangements made for the sale of optical and nonoptical devices. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers regular talks with community groups, support groups, churches, senior centers, and senior communities.

Computer Training: Adaptive computer training. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides occupational therapists to consult with and advise other care providers regarding specific patients. Provides consultations on Medicare policy issues.

Counseling: Offers support through phone friends network and limited counseling and social work services. Refers for further services as necessary.

Health/Medical: Provides therapists to address the spectrum of health problems affecting vision of seniors.

Information and Referral: Provides local and national resource information to patients and families. Refers to other agencies as appropriate.

Low Vision: Offers comprehensive low vision examination followed by appropriate rehabilitation and does phone follow-up with patients six weeks after discharge and annually thereafter. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Provides training for ophthalmology residents and internship placement for occupational therapy students and orientation and mobility students.

Rehabilitation: Provides comprehensive rehabilitation services including home and personal management, communication, travel and other adaptive skills. Provides training in daily living skills and use of adaptive aids for seniors.

Grosse Pointe Park: 15401 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

Kent District Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

3350 Michael Avenue SW

Wyoming, MI 49509

Tel: (616) 647-3980

(616) 534-4822 (Fax)

www.kdl.org/about_kdl/lbph/index.asp

E-mail: lbphstaff@kdl.org

Laura Weld, Subregional Librarian, lweld@kdl.org

Sue Crenshaw, Paraprofessional, screenshaw@kdl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as a multimedia information resource promoting literacy and intellectual freedom, encouraging lifelong learning, and responding to the diverse interests of its communities.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Kent County.

Geographic area served: Ionia, Kent, and Montcalm Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 AM-9:00 PM, Fri. 9:30 AM-5:00 PM, Sat 9:30 AM-5 PM, Sun. 1-5 PM.

Accessibility: Building is accessible.

Clients served annually: 1500.

Staff: 1.5 full-time employees.

Fee structure: All materials provided without charge to registered borrowers.

Publications: Kent Quarterly Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: We provide our quarterly newsletter in braille upon request.

Computer Training: Training is limited to basic orientation. Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Information and Referral: Maintains a list of local service agencies.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Provides Vision Enhancement Devices (set of 4 magnifying glasses) for seniors' use on site and basic orientation training in the use of assistive devices.

Located in a full-service public library.

Reading Services: The Newslite: Newspapers for the Blind, service of Michigan National Federation of the Blind project is available.

Leader Dogs for the Blind (LDFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

1039 South Rochester Road

Rochester, MI 48307

Tel: (888) 777-5332

(248) 651-9011

(248) 651-3713 (TDD/TTY)

(248) 651-5812 (Fax)

www.leaderdog.org

William Hansen, President/Executive Director,

bhansen@leaderdog.org

Rodney L. Haneline, Director, Admissions and

Graduate Services, rhaneline@leaderdog.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the lives of the blind and visually impaired.

Established: 1939.

County/District where located: Oakland.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, in good health, 18 years of age, out of high school, with basic orientation and mobility skills.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Office hours Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Training is not offered to people who are wheelchair bound.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Individuals are provided private, comfortable room and board while on campus for Leader Dog instruction.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: Approx. 280.

Staff: 105.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Leader Dog Update; Orientation of Guide Dog Users to New Environments; Dog Guide Users in the Workplace.

Additional information: Leader Dogs is also offering O&M services and will be expanding services in other areas.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Offers supervised course and training with dog guides.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers the Accelerated Mobility Program (AMP), a five to seven day course designed to sharpen existing skills. Offers expedited instruction in mobility to those interested in obtaining a dog guide.

Library of Michigan: Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

702 West Kalamazoo

Lansing, MI 48915

Tel: (800) 992-9012

(517) 373-5614

(517) 373-1592 (TDD/TTY)

(517) 373-5865 (Fax)

www.michigan.gov/sbph

E-mail: sbph@michigan.gov

Susan M. Chinault, Manager, Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Public Services, (517) 373-5353, chinaults@michigan.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide recreational reading materials to individuals who are unable to read standard printed material.

County/District where located: Ingham County.

Geographic area served: Michigan, excluding Wayne County. Serves all of Michigan for braille.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical disabilities that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Low Vision and Visual Rehabilitative Services: University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center

1000 Wall Street

Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Tel: (734) 764-5106

(734) 936-1991 (Fax)

www.kellogg.umich.edu

E-mail: contactkellogg@umich.edu

Paul R. Lichter, M.D., Director, UM Kellogg Eye Center
Cheryl Terpening-Frueh, O.T.R., C.O.T., Occupational Therapist, clclaudil@umich.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for those with low vision, through the services of a multidisciplinary team of ophthalmologists, optometrists and occupational therapists. These specialists assess patients' vision, advise them on useful adaptive devices, and help them adapt their homes and daily routines so that they can function more independently.

County/District where located: Washtenaw County.

Geographic area served: Michigan.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: Insurance and patient payment.

Publications: Low Vision Resource Guide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides low vision assessment and rehabilitative training.

Assistive Products: Distributes magnifiers, eyeglasses, high magnification eyeglasses, closed-circuit televisions. Products for sale on site.

Low Vision: Provides comprehensive low vision evaluation and follow-up. Specialists prescribe and supply corrective lenses and low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Offers occupational therapy, including home visits, to assist with reading, household and money management, and other daily activities.

Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

16480 Hall Road

Clinton Township, MI 48038-1132

Tel: (586) 286-1580

(800) 649-3777 (TDD/TTY) (Michigan Relay Number)

(586) 286-0634 (Fax)

www.libcoop.net/macspe

E-mail: macbld@libcoop.net

Ann Mandel, Librarian, (586) 412-5974

Beverlee Babcock, Director, Special Services Division,
(586) 412-5976, macbld@libcoop.net

Pat Culling, Talking Book Consultant

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make the printed word accessible to all segments of the population.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Macomb County.

Geographic area served: Macomb County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible for all disabilities.

Staff: 6.

Publications: Monthly newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Audiodescription: Has over 400 descriptive videos available. Children, adult, fiction, and nonfiction materials.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats

(cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Various.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other blind, deaf, and other disability organizations.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Provides talking books, magazines and playback equipment for seniors.

Parent Assistance: Helps parents obtain the books their children need.

Michigan Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

c/o Michigan Disability Rights Coalition

740 W. Lake Lansing Road

Suite 200

East Lansing, MI 48823

Tel: (800) 760-4600 (In state.)

(517) 333-2477 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(517) 333-2677 (Fax)

www.copower.org

Kathryn Wakeman-Wyeth, Contact Person,
kdwyeth@match.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create greater access to assistive technology by building the capacity of local communities to create genuine systems change. By supporting the local efforts of persons with disabilities, their families, and friends, Michigan's AT Project seeks to support local organizations capable of advocating for the use of technology as a tool for advocacy and inclusion of all people with disabilities in all aspects of community life.

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Works in coalition with other organizations to educate policy makers about the need for assistive technology supports in health care, long term care and education.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers support for projects that aim to increase access to Assistive Technology devices and services.

Financial Assistance: The Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund helps consumers purchase assistive technology devices and services.

Michigan Association of Transcribers for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

215 Sheldon, SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Tel: (616) 458-1187

Charis Austin, Client Advocate

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Michigan.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, career/vocational, menus, directories.

Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

3500 North Elm Road

Jackson, MI 49241

Tel: (517) 780-5096

(734) 668-1094 (Fax)

Francelia Wonders, Director,
francelia.wonders@worldnet.att.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe books and other material into braille as requested by schools and social service agencies.

Established: 1962.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-10:45 AM, 12:15 PM-3:45 PM.

Fee structure: Per-page charge.

Publications: Yearly catalog.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Distributes transcribed textbooks, tests, workbooks, and related materials.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Textbooks, mathematics and computer-related materials.

Michigan Commission for the Blind: Department of Labor & Economic Growth

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

201 North Washington Square

Lansing, MI 48933

Tel: (800) 292-4200

(517) 373-2062

(517) 335-5140 (Fax)

www.mcb1.org

Patrick D. Cannon, State Director,
cannonp@michigan.gov

Robert Utrup, Project Director, Independent Living
Program, utrupr@state.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities for employment and independent living to persons who are legally blind.

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind for vocational rehabilitation, independent living, Business Enterprise Programs. Vision acuity of 20/70 or less for youth low vision program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Residential Facilities: Michigan Commission for the Blind Training Center is a short-term residential facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides visual assessment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to groups likely to benefit from provided services to people who are blind or visually impaired.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance.

Counseling: Offers counseling, guidance, and referral services.

Early Intervention: Offers early intervention services.

Employment: Offers evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational placement, follow-up service.

Health/Medical: Provides diagnostic, medical and surgical treatment.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent counseling.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training.

Recreation: Provides orientation to adaptive leisure activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille reading/writing, home mechanics, adaptive kitchen skills, low vision, electronic and computerized communication devices, college preparatory, job-seeking skills.

LOCAL OFFICES

Detroit: State of Michigan Plaza Building, North Tower, 1200 Sixth Avenue, 15th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226

Escanaba: State Office Building, 305 Ludington Street, Escanaba, MI 49829

Flint: Flint State Office Building, 125 East Union, Seventh Floor, Flint, MI 48502

Gaylord: 209 First Street, Gaylord, MI 49735

Grand Rapids: 250 Ottawa Avenue, N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Kalamazoo: 1541 Oakland Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Lansing: 201 North Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48909

Saginaw: Saginaw State Office Building, 411-G East Genesee, Saginaw, MI 48607

Michigan Commission for the Blind Training Center (MCBTC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

1541 Oakland Drive

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Tel: (800) 292-4200 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(269) 337-3848

(888) 864-1212 (TDD/TTY)

(517) 373-2062 (TDD/TTY)

(269) 337-3872 (Fax)

www.mcb1.org

E-mail: mosscc@michigan.gov

Melody Lindsey, Director, Training Center

Robert G. Tinney, Computer Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide individuals who are blind or visually impaired the opportunity to achieve employment and independence.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Kalamazoo County.

Geographic area served: Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind — visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with correction or a field restriction of no more than 20 degrees.

Ages served: 15 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories.

Staff: 35.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Braille and Reading Instruction, Computer Training, Counseling, Employment, Information and Referral, Library Services, Orientation and Mobility, Professional Training, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Evaluates for computer skills, employment, communication skills.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Provides computer training on site. Database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers social evaluations; individual, group, family/parent counseling. Refers for other counseling/social work services. Contracts for psychological services.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, vending facility training.

Information and Referral: Provides information about blindness to consumers and the general public.

Library: Maintains library of braille books, large print books, braille magazines, recorded magazines. Loans out talking book record players and cassette players.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in industrial arts, orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work, vocational rehabilitation and regular in-service training program. Offers modified short-term or summer training.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, hobby groups, instruction and/or assistance for any student activity. Refers to community programs for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, communications, handwriting, listening skills, keyboarding, video magnifier, home management, industrial arts, adaptive kitchen skills, and other skills.

Michigan Department of Education: Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State educational services

608 W. Allegan Street

Lansing, MI 48909

Tel: (888) 320-8384

(517) 373-0923

(517) 373-7504 (Fax)

www.michigan.gov/mde/

0,1607,7-140-6530_6598—,00.html

E-mail: MDEWeb@michigan.gov

Jacquelyn Thompson, Director,

ThompsonJJ@michigan.gov

Vanessa Winborne, Part C Coordinator,

winbornev@michigan.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide both guidelines and directives to local districts for the purposes of publicizing and monitoring a comprehensive continuum of services mandated for disabled students birth to 25.

County/District where located: Ingham County.

Geographic area served: Michigan.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Michigan's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Monitors comprehensive educational services for multiply disabled, blind, deaf-blind students.

Employment: Provides career education.

Michigan Office of Services to the Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

7109 W. Saginaw

First Floor

Lansing, MI 48909-8176

Tel: (517) 373-8230

(517) 373-4096 (TDD/TTY)

(517) 373-4092 (Fax)

www.miseniors.net/MiSeniors+Home/

Sharon Gire, Director, OSADirector@michigan.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independence and enhance the dignity of Michigan's older persons and their families through advocacy, leadership and innovation.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Michigan Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Professional membership organization**

120 West Saginaw
East Lansing, MI 48823
Tel: (517) 333-6739
(517) 337-2590 (Fax)

Penny E. Englerth, Executive Director,
penglerth@msms.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Ingham County.

Michigan Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Low vision center/clinic**■ **Professional membership organization**

530 West Ionia Street
Suite A

Lansing, MI 48933

Tel: (517) 482-0616

(517) 482-1611 (Fax)

www.mioptassn.org

E-mail: mioptoassn@aol.com

William Dansby, CAE, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To unite all licensed optometrists and be the representative voice for the profession of optometry in Michigan. To provide education, information, and other member services to assist optometrists in practicing successfully in accordance with the highest standards of patient care; to advance the quality and accessibility of optometric services throughout the state; to ensure the recognition of optometrists as the primary providers of vision and related health services.
Established: 1896.

County/District where located: Ingham County.

Publications: The Michigan Optometrist.

Additional information: Certifies optometric low vision practitioners.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Michigan's Assistive Technology Resource

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Educational agency**

1023 South U.S. 27

St. Johns, MI 48879-2424

Tel: (800) 274-7426

(989) 224-0330

(989) 224-0246 (TDD/TTY)

(989) 224-0333 (Fax)

www.cenmi.org/matr/default.asp

E-mail: matr@edzone.net

Jeffrey Diedrich, Director, diedrich@edzone.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information services, support materials, technical assistance, and training to local and intermediate school districts in Michigan to increase their capacity to address the needs of students with disabilities with assistive technology.

County/District where located: Clinton County.

Geographic area served: Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Must be school-age.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Evaluates assistive technology needs of clients.

Computer Training: Offer computer training for school-age children. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Information and Referral: Provides information about state-of-the-art technology, daily living devices, equipment, and the identification of assistive technology solutions for children with disabilities.

Library: Houses and maintains an extensive library of existing large print and braille textbooks. Maintains a software lending library containing a variety of educational and accessibility software for check out by school district personnel and parents.

Professional Training: Provides pre-service, in-service, and graduate experiences for individuals working within the Intermediate School Districts (ISDs), and within existing programs of study at Michigan's institutions of higher education.

Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Low Incidence Outreach

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Information/referral center**■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

1667 Miller Road

Flint, MI 48503-4720

Tel: (800) 622-6730 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Must enter a 1 before entering the extension to get to the campus menu.)

(810) 257-1420 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(800) 622-6730 (TDD/TTY)

(810) 257-1400 (TDD/TTY)

(810) 257-1403 (Fax)

www.cenmi.org/msdb-lio

E-mail: MSDB-Outreach@mi.gov

Kathleen A. Brown, Supervisor, (810) 257-1421,
brownk3@mi.gov

Karen Firos, O&M Specialist; Special Education
Consultant; Early Childhood Teacher, (810) 257-1461,
firosk@mi.gov

Janet Keefer, Book Services Support Staff, (810)
257-1488, keeferj1@mi.gov

Patricia Love-Sypho, Technical Assistance Coordinator,
(810) 257-1489, lovep@mi.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide resources and expertise in educating children with visual impairments and hearing impairments, to empower teachers and parents to teach and children to learn.

Established: 1879.

County/District where located: Genesee County.

Geographic area served: Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Must be registered with a local school district. Must be registered with APH Census for Federal Quota products.

Ages served: 0 to 25.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Barrier-free entrances, braille signage inside building.

Residential Facilities: 32 beds, full kitchen, library, living room, dining room, nurse's station, and laundry room.

Budget: \$780,000.

Fee structure: Charge for professional development, parent instruction, and student enrichment. Charge for production of tradebooks and textbooks if student does not qualify for Federal Quota materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Offers extensive assistance to schools in locating and procuring braille, large print and audio books. Maintains a production unit to produce braille and enlarged print educational materials, produced on a fee-for-service basis for schools. Will emboss braille materials from a braille-ready file.

Assessment: Administers student assessments to determine specific needs.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to students on request. Holds workshops to train teacher consultants, parents, and professionals.

Early Intervention: Refers to local schools, then does follow-up.

Education Services: Provides outreach services to K-12 students registered with local school districts. Offers instruction in daily living skills and independent living skills for students and their parents.

Library: Maintains a collection of materials—books, videos, assistive technology, kits, models—specific to the education of children with visual impairment.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides O&M instruction.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent workshops, braille classes, consultation, in-home visits if related to enrichment placement.

Preschool: Refers to local school districts for services.

Professional Training: Offers workshops to teacher consultants, professionals, and parents.

Mideastern Michigan Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Talking Book Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

G-4195 West Pasadena

Flint, MI 48504

Tel: (877) 732-1120

(810) 732-1120

(810) 732-1715 (Fax)

www.gdl.falcon.edu/talkingbookcenter/talkingbooks.htm

Deloris King, Subregional Librarian, dking@gfn.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage and support reading by providing materials in alternate formats for readers who are print impaired.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Genesee County.

Geographic area served: Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-8:00 PM, Fri.-Sat. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, state funds.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Midwest Enterprises for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3308 Covington Street

Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Tel: (269) 383-0713

(269) 383-0357 (Fax)

E-mail: mweblind@worldnet.att.net

Any Grindle, Administrative Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create employment for legally blind and multidisabled persons, thus providing a means to economic independence.

Established: 1993.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind and/or multidisabled individuals 16 years and above.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides employment opportunities for legally blind individuals on premises. Assembles pens, pencils, affixes stamps to calculators.

Muskegon County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

97 East Apple Avenue

Muskegon, MI 49442-3404

Tel: (877) 569-4801 (For Ottawa County residents)

(231) 724-6257

(231) 722-4103 (TDD/TTY)

(231) 724-6675 (Fax)

www.muscolib.org/lbph.htm

E-mail: mclsm@llcoop.org

Sheila Miller, Librarian, millersh@co.muskegon.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve the residents of Muskegon and Ottawa Counties of Michigan who cannot read or use ordinary printed materials because of physical limitations.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Muskegon County.

Geographic area served: Muskegon and Ottawa Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, automatic door openers.

Staff: 1 full-time, 2 part-time.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers presentations for groups (service organizations, nursing homes, senior centers, assisted living facilities).

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Parent Assistance: Offers in-home visits to new library patrons.

North Bay Ophthalmology: Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2061 M-119

Petoskey, MI 49770

Tel: (866) 407-2020

(231) 487-2020

(231) 487-6541 (Fax)

www.northbay.eyemd.org

E-mail: ddziak@nbopetoskey.net

David Dziak, Optician, Low Vision Consultant, Low Vision, ddziaknbo@msn.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low-cost effective vision aids and referral services to all interested persons.

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: Emmet County.

Geographic area served: Primarily northern lower Michigan and eastern upper peninsula.

Eligibility requirements: Referral and current ophthalmological report.

Ages served: 25 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, state funds.

Clients served annually: 50.

Staff: 2. Ophthalmologist; low vision assistant.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes a full range of low vision devices, including magnifiers, telescopes/microscopes, glare and content control, closed-circuit televisions. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Prescribes low vision devices.

Northland Library Cooperative

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

316 East Chisholm Street

Alpena, MI 49707

Tel: (800) 446-1580 (Toll free in Michigan)

(989) 356-1622

(989) 354-3939 (Fax)

www.nlc.lib.mi.us/library/

E-mail: nlclbph@northland.lib.mi.us

Christine Johnson, Interim Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon./Tues./Thurs./Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Oakland County Library for the Visually and Physically Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1200 North Telegraph

Pontiac, MI 48341-0482

Tel: (800) 774-4542 (Oakland County only.)

(248) 858-5050

(248) 452-2247 (TDD/TTY)

(248) 858-9313 (Fax)

www.co.oakland.mi.us/lvpi

E-mail: lvpi@co.oakland.mi.us

David Conklin, Library Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library services to blind, visually impaired, physically handicapped, and reading disabled residents of Oakland County who are unable to use standard printed materials.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Oakland County, Michigan.

Geographic area served: Oakland County, Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Complete accessibility.

Funded by: Private donations, public funds, state funds.

Fee structure: No fees.

Additional information: Subregional library of the National Library Service (NLS).

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Circulates talking books, large print books, descriptive videos and some adaptive technologies to qualifying residents of Oakland County, Michigan.

Penrickton Center for Blind Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

26530 Eureka Road

Taylor, MI 48180

Tel: (734) 946-7500

(734) 946-6707 (Fax)

www.Penrickton.com

E-mail: mail@penrickton.com

Kurt M. Sebaly, Executive Director

Patricia L. Obrzut, Assistant Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide residential, day care, and consultation/evaluation services to blind, multi-disabled children ages one through twelve in order to promote independence in all aspects of daily living through support services, education, and advocacy.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Southeastern Michigan.

Consultation/referral program for all of Michigan plus northern Ohio, northern Indiana, and Ontario.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or legally blind; at least one additional disability.

Ages served: 1 to 12.

Hours of operation: Weekdays.

Accessibility: Braille signage, wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories.

Budget: \$1,200,000.

Clients served annually: 35.

Staff: 50.

Fee structure: None.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers a variety of community education programs on blindness and other disabilities for groups, service clubs, and schools.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations and offers informal family counseling and referral to community services.

Information and Referral: Offers consultation/referral program for blind, multidisabled children, ages 1-12. Serves all of Michigan, northern Ohio, northern Indiana, and Ontario.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling with social worker.

Preschool: Operates day care center for children ages 1-6 who are legally blind and have at least one additional handicap.

Professional Training: Provides training in the Active Learning method developed by Dr. Lili Nielsen.

Recreation: Offers activities such as arts and crafts, music therapy, and field trips.

Rehabilitation: Provides occupational therapy, music therapy, dance and movement therapy, developmental programming. Offers a 5-day residential program.

Readings for the Blind (RBMI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

29350 Southfield Road
Suite 130
Southfield, MI 48076-2060
Tel: (888) 766-1166
(248) 557-7776
(248) 557-5382 (Fax)
www.readingsfortheblind.org/
E-mail: rftb@sbcglobal.net
Doreen Murphy, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: Readings for the Blind believes that printed matter should be accessible to all. We seek to accomplish this by creating customized recordings of books and other print material for the blind, vision impaired, learning disabled, and the physically challenged.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Oakland County.

Geographic area served: Local and international.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, learning disabled, or physically unable to hold a book or turn a page.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Wed. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Thurs. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 2 part-time paid staff.

Fee structure: No cost for loan or tape exchange. Tapes can also be purchased for \$2 per tape.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Library Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Books on tape include textbooks, leisure reading, etc.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, fiction, nonfiction, religious texts, etc.

Library: Maintains audiocassette library in standard, analog cassette tape format.

Recording For The Blind & Dyslexic: Michigan Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5600 Rochester Road
Troy, MI 48085
Tel: (248) 879-0101
(248) 879-9927 (Fax)
www.rfbd.org
E-mail: custserv@rfbd.org
Carla Reeb, Executive Director, creeb@rfbd.org
Don Haffner, Studio Director, dhaffner@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Oakland County.

Geographic area served: RFB&D Audio Library serves any print disabled individual nationwide. Michigan Unit serves Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon-Thurs. 8:00 AM-8:00 PM; Fri-Sat. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap Accessible.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: 8,000 Michigan students.

Staff: 3. Chief executive officer and two production program directors.

Fee structure: See www.rfbd.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Library Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Recorded textbooks, reference materials.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Princeton: RFB&D National Library, 20 Roszel Road,
Princeton, NJ 08540, custserv@rfbd.org

Seedlings Braille Books for Children

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Sight Seer (West Michigan Radio Reading Service)**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Radio reading station**

The Sight Seer Radio Reading Service

213 Sheldon Boulevard S.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49503-4513

Tel: (616) 235-0020

(616) 235-0022 (Fax)

www.thesightseer.org

E-mail: seer@thesightseer.org

Ken (Kenneth) W. Van Prooyen, Sr., Director,

seer@thesightseer.org

Ruth Van Prooyen, Program Coordinator,

seer@thesightseer.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the special information needs of persons who are unable to read because of sight impairment or physical disability.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Kent County.

Geographic area served: 35-mile radius from Grand Rapids on local station, 100-mile radius from Grand Rapids on regional FM radio station. No limit on the Internet.

Eligibility requirements: Clients must be blind, visually impaired or physically disabled or unable to hold print material because of illness or accident.

Ages served: 4 to 94.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Studios and offices are located in downtown Grand Rapids, 213 Sheldon Boulevard SE. Can be accessed by city bus, GoBus, easy parking.

Clients served annually: 5,000 by radio.

Staff: 134 volunteers. No paid personnel. All volunteer participants are specialists in their program field.

Fee structure: There is no charge for the service. Radios are loaned to users, but a \$100.00 refundable deposit is requested to assure radios will be returned when no longer used by client.

Publications: The Program Guide describing broadcasts and book reviews monthly. Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: TheSightSeer has been in service for 21 years in 2004 and is presently seeking a cable service or sap channel to extend the reading service over West Michigan areas.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Fitness: Broadcasts physical exercise program on a regular basis.

Professional Training: Offers training for readers in radio reading.

Reading Services: Broadcasts information, education and entertainment. Furnishes radios and/or receivers to health care and retirement facilities. Newspapers read include the Grand Rapids Press, The Daily News, Kalamazoo Gazette, Walker Advance, Grand Rapids Advance, Lowell Ledger, West Michigan Christian, Rockford Squire.

Sinai Hospital: Vision Rehabilitation Institute**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Low vision center/clinic**

27211 Lahser

Suite 200

Southfield, MI 48034

Tel: (248) 357-4385

(248) 358-3143 (Fax)

Mary Jo Ference, Director

Elaine Roman, Vision Therapist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Primarily Michigan.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers rehabilitative counseling and social work services to persons who are visually impaired.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers occupational therapy and special education services to visually impaired individuals.

Special Technologies Alternative Resources, St. Clair County Library**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **National Library Service library**

210 McMorran Boulevard

Port Huron, MI 48060

Tel: (800) 272-8570

(810) 982-3600

(877) 472-7840 (TDD/TTY)

(810) 455-0200 (TDD/TTY)

(810) 987-6768 (Fax)

www.sccl.lib.mi.us/star.html

E-mail: star@sccl.lib.mi.us

Mary Jo Koch, Librarian, mjkoch@sccl.lib.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: St. Clair County.

Geographic area served: Huron, Sanilac, St. Clair, and Tuscola Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 1 to 99.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Accessibility: Ramps, elevator, braille signage, sign language, sliding front doors.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Reader advisors available.

Publications: Seasonal newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in various health fairs, radio interviews, and advertisements.

Information and Referral: Provides information on blindness and physical disabilities as well as referral for other services/products.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Professional Training: Hosts sensitivity workshops as well as sign-language courses and adaptive technology programs.

Temple Beth El Braille Bindery: Tri-County Braille Volunteers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

7400 Telegraph Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301
Tel: (248) 851-1100

Ilene Sawyer, Co-President, (248) 788-0358

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To print books in braille, dispense books to libraries and schools, bind braille books with print and braille titles, pages and covers, repair old or damaged books for libraries, individuals, organizations and schools as needed.

Established: 1940.

County/District where located: Oakland County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 1 and above.

Hours of operation: Tues. 9:00 AM-12:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Private donations.

Clients served annually: 250.

Staff: 10. volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille). Braille books transcribed, bound, repaired.

Upper Peninsula Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

1615 Presque Isle Avenue

Marquette, MI 49855

Tel: (800) 562-8985 (Toll free in Michigan)

(906) 228-7697 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(906) 228-7697 (TDD/TTY)

(906) 228-5627 (Fax)

www.uproc.lib.mi.us/uplbph/

E-mail: uplbph@uproc.lib.mi.us

Suzanne Dees, Librarian, sdees@uproc.lib.mi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickerson, Goegebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, and Schoolcraft Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Texas.

Visually Impaired Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

1422 W. Court Street

Flint, MI 48503

Tel: (810) 235-2544

(810) 235-2597 (Fax)

www.vicflint.org/

E-mail: info@vicflint.org

Sharon Reigle, Executive Director

Leanne Ford, Instructor
Marilyn Hurwitz, Social Worker

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop resources and collaborative programs as well as provide services that enable independent life for people with vision loss.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: Genesee County.

Geographic area served: Genesee, Shiawassee, and Lapeer Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired. Requires current eye and medical reports.

Ages served: 18 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 200.

Staff: 3 full-time, 4 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides social work assessment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille classes, Grade I and II.

Counseling: Offers assessment and referral needed for services including peer support group, rehabilitation teaching, orientation and mobility, computer instruction.

Employment: Provides training in job retention, job retraining, computer instruction. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Offers educational program for blind diabetics.

Professional Training: Offers internships, field placements for social work (BA and MSW), and orientation and mobility.

Recreation: Refers for recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, typing, home management, orientation and mobility skills and in the use of video magnifiers in client's home and community. Provides diabetes education and sensory training. Refers for other services, including computer instruction.

Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

4135 Washtenaw Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8645

Tel: (888) 460-0680

(734) 973-4350 (Consumers may call collect.)

(734) 973-4963 (Fax)

www.co.ewashtenaw.org

E-mail: lbpd@ewashtenaw.org

Margaret Wolfe, Librarian Coordinator for LBPD,
wolfem@ewashtenaw.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer specialized services and programs to Washtenaw County government, individuals, institutions, libraries, and other governmental units.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Washtenaw County.

Geographic area served: Washtenaw, Jackson, and Livingston Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Publications: LBPD News (large print, cassette).

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Wayne County Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

30555 Michigan Avenue
Westland, MI 48186-5310

Tel: (888) 968-2737

(734) 727-7300

(734) 727-7330 (TDD/TTY)

(734) 727-7333 (Fax)

www.wayneregional.lib.mi.us

E-mail: wcrblbph@wayneregional.lib.mi.us

Reginald B. Williams, Director of Libraries

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: Wayne County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Service is provided over the phone and through the mail. Patrons do not have to physically visit the library.

Clients served annually: 4,000.

Staff: 10. Librarians, librarian assistants, student interns.

Fee structure: Free, government-sponsored service.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and descriptive video cassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Provides reader's advisory services.

Welcome Home for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Residential facility**

1953 Monroe Street, NW

Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Tel: (888) 939-9292

(616) 363-9088

(616) 363-3099 (Fax)

www.welcomehomes.org

E-mail: info@welcomehomes.org

Kathy Higgins, Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer, KH052355@aol.com

Nancee J. DeVogel, Marketing Director, Admissions, nancee@welcomehomes.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a retirement community for visually impaired persons.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Kent County.

Geographic area served: U.S.

Eligibility requirements: Residents must be legally blind, 60 years of age and independent.

Hours of operation: 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

Fee structure: Monthly fee, sliding scale.

Publications: Brochures.

Additional information: Welcome Home is Michigan's only independent retirement community for the visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Housing Services: Offers residency to all self-sufficient, legally blind adults.

Western Michigan University: Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Postsecondary institution**

3404 Sangren Hall

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Tel: (269) 387-3455

(269) 387-3567 (Fax)

www.wmich.edu

Paul Ponchillia, Chair, Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies

Richard Long, Coordinator of O&M Program (Adult), (269) 387-3451, richard.long@wmich.edu

Susan Ponchillia, Rehabilitation Teaching, (269) 387-3450, susan.ponchillia@wmich.edu

Annette Skellenger, Coordinator of TCVI/OMC (programs for teaching children), (269) 387-5944, (269) 387-5703 (Fax), annette.skellenger@wmich.edu
 Jennipher Wiebold, Coordinator of R T/R C(RCT), (269) 387-3459, jennipher.wiebold@wmich.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Kalamazoo County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Graduate program for teachers of visually impaired and multiply disabled students. Master's program for orientation and mobility specialists, rehabilitation teachers of blind students, and dual competency teachers of visually impaired students/orientation and mobility. Undergraduate program in travel instruction. Master's program in rehabilitation teaching and rehabilitation counseling. M.A. in Rehabilitation Teaching, M.A. in Teacher of Children with Visual Impairments and/or Orientation and Mobility with Children available through distance education.

Western Michigan University: Vision Rehabilitation Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Low vision center/clinic**

University Medical Building

1000 Oakland Drive

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Tel: (269) 387-7064

(269) 387-7212 (Fax)

www.wmich.edu/hhs/unifiedclinics/visionrehab.html

Dale Latulippe, Coordinator,

dale.latulippe@wmich.edu

Robert Unser, O.D., Low Vision Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Kalamazoo County.

Geographic area served: Michigan and Northern Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Eye report, referral, functional impairment due to poor vision.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: Optometrist, low vision therapist, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, rehabilitation counselor, audiologist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices (video magnification systems from Telesensory, Optelec, Pulse Data, Magnasight, and Enhanced Vision Systems).

WKAR Radio Talking Book

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Radio reading station**

283 Communication Arts and Sciences Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1212
Tel: (517) 353-9124
(517) 353-7124 (Fax)
www.wkar.org
E-mail: mail@wkar.org.

DeAnne Hamilton, Director and General Manager,

DeAnne@wkar.org

Brigid K. Jansen, Producer, Radio Talking Book, WKAR

Radio Talking Book, Brigid@wkar.org

Mary Wright, Volunteer Coordinator,

MaryW@wkar.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Ingham County.

Geographic area served: Mid-Michigan.

Eligibility requirements: Certified by health care provider as requiring the service.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Features material from 12 Michigan newspapers, including: local front page & metro stories; local business, sports, opinion, editorial & feature columnists; grocery and department store advertisements; community calendar information; and TV schedules & movie reviews.

Minnesota

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Minnesota Board on Aging: Senior Linkage
Line
(800) 882-6262

Minnesota State Services for the Blind
(800) 652-9000

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Minnesota Department of Education: Division
of Special Education
(651) 582-8200

Educational Services

Minnesota Department of Education: Division
of Special Education
(651) 582-8200

Instructional Materials Center

Minnesota Resource Center for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(800) 657-3859

Rehabilitation Services

Minnesota State Services for the Blind
(800) 652-9000

School for the Blind

Minnesota State Academy for the Blind
(800) 657-3634

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Minnesota Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped
Minnesota State Services for the Blind
Volunteer Braille Services

Information/Referral Centers

Minnesota Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped
Sight & Hearing Association

Libraries

Minnesota Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Mayo Clinic Department of Ophthalmology: Low
Vision Service
Regions Hospital: Low Vision Clinic

University of Minnesota: Department of
Ophthalmology

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

National Association to Promote the Use of Braille

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology
Minnesota Optometric Association

National Organizations

Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in
Ophthalmology
Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, Inc.
National Association to Promote the Use of Braille

National Publishers

Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association

Radio Reading Stations

Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Minnesota State Services for the Blind

Rehabilitation Agencies

Blindness: Learning in New Dimensions
Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Vision Loss Resources

Schools for the Blind

Minnesota State Academy for the Blind

Blindness: Learning in New Dimensions

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

100 East 22nd Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Tel: (800) 597-9558 (Organization uses Minnesota Deaf
Relay (800)657-3775.)
(612) 872-0100
(612) 872-9358 (Fax)
www.blindinc.org
E-mail: info@blindinc.org
Shawn M. Mayo, Executive Director,
smayo@blindinc.org
Dick Davis, Assistant Director for Employment
Services; Industrial Arts Instructor,
ddavis@blindinc.org
Al Spooner, Computer Instructor,
aspooner@blindinc.org
Emily Zitek, Office Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower people who are blind to lead self-directed, independent, and productive lives.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Hennepin County.

Geographic area served: United States based, international.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, desiring independence and employment. Capable of benefiting from training program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to all.

Residential Facilities: 2-bedroom apartments, integrated community housing.

Publications: BLIND, INC. Eagle (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, Orientation and Mobility to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses client's skill levels and readiness for employment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers 12 group sessions in which people over 55 learn braille.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition

State Technology Programs

Minnesota STAR Program

systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Counseling: Offers support in adjustment to blindness, advocacy training, and advocacy on individual basis.

Employment: Offers classes emphasizing use of technology and other basic employment skills and instruction in specific systems, software and procedures used by employer partners.

Information and Referral: Provides information on blindness and referral to appropriate resources.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers instruction in cane travel for seniors.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to parents of blind children.

Professional Training: Offers 6 weeks of adjustment-to-blindness training for professionals working in the field of blindness.

Reading Services: Provides radio reading services through Newsline for the Blind.

Recreation: Operates summer camp.

Rehabilitation: Provides full-time comprehensive classroom and residential training in braille, cane travel, home management, life skills, industrial arts, and computer skills.

Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Radio reading station

■ Rehabilitation agency

4505 West Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55807-2728
Tel: (800) 422-0833 (Minnesota only)
(218) 624-4828
(218) 624-8822 (TDD/TTY)
(218) 624-4479 (Fax)

www.lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org
E-mail: info@lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org

Georgia Guite, Executive Director,
gguite@lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org
Harold Hanson, Rehabilitation Teacher/Low Vision
Services,
hhanson@lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org
Martha Hanson, Deafblind Specialist,
mhanson@lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org

Marsha K. Lee, Orientation & Mobility,
mkleee@lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org
Sandra Wilmot, Employment Services,
swilmot@lighthousefortheblind-duluth.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To foster the independence of people who are blind, deaf-blind, and visually impaired, thereby helping them to realize their full potentials as individuals.

Established: 1919.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: No limits for agency based program; 14 counties of Northern Minnesota and Northwest Wisconsin for itinerant and deaf-blind program.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, legally blind, deaf-blind.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Housing available for rehabilitation clients.

Budget: \$700,000.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 11. O&M specialist, rehabilitation teachers, technology specialists, hearing and vision loss specialist (deaf-blind), intervenor/service support person, occupational therapist.

Fee structure: Fees paid by State for Minnesota and Wisconsin residents. Private pay or other sources accepted.

Publications: Twin Ports Low Vision Store Catalog. (Free Catalog).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Provides technology, closed-circuit television, and daily living assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Small documents requested by groups or individuals.

Community Outreach Programs: Does community outreach to elderly who have low vision. Offers itinerant services, employer/employee assistance, deafblind program, and CCTV assessments.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, handheld notetakers.

Counseling: Offers consultation and referral services, individual/group/family counseling.

Employment: Provides pre-employment and employment coordination.

Health/Medical: Offers diabetes information services.

Information and Referral: Information and referral services provided.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training to professionals working with blind or deaf-blind people.

Reading Services: Twin Ports Newspaper of the Air.

Recreation: Provides instruction in leisure skills and adaptive woodworking skills.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in personal management, braille, computer training, keyboard, home management, orientation and mobility, talking calculators, communication skills in client's home and community. Offers special programs for deaf-blind. Provides in-home, community-based, and in-agency training in skills of daily living, low vision, communication methods, and counseling and community integration support for seniors.

Support Groups: Offers special support for seniors with hearing and vision loss. Has three monthly support groups, one in Hibbing, MN and two in Duluth, MN.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: North Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Illinois.

Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Mayo Clinic Department of Ophthalmology: Low Vision Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Mayo West 7A

200 1st Street, SW

Rochester, MN 55905

Tel: (507) 284-3726

(507) 284-4612 (Fax)

www.mayoclinic.org/ophthalmology-rst/lowvision.html

E-mail: siemens.dennis@mayo.edu

Dennis W. Siemen, Low Vision Optometrist,
Ophthalmology, siemens.dennis@mayo.edu

William L. Brown, Low Vision Optometrist, (507)
284-4946

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. by appointment.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: Optometrist, low vision specialists, social worker, ophthalmologist, ophthalmology resident, ophthalmology technician, occupational therapist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells optical and adaptive devices. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in health fairs, geriatric training conferences, AER activities.

Counseling: Has a full-time clinical social worker on staff.

Information and Referral: Offers referral services through Geriatric Medicine Division.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

676 Transfer Road

St. Paul, MN 55114-1402

Tel: (651) 645-2452

(651) 645-2742 (Fax)

www.mneyemd.org

Kristin Wallerich, Executive Director, kwmao@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To achieve accessible, appropriate and affordable eye care for the public by serving the educational and professional needs of the ophthalmologist.

Established: 1936.

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Publications: Eyes on Ophthalmology (newsletter).

Minnesota Board on Aging: Senior Linkage Line

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

444 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155-3843

Tel: (800) 882-6262

(651) 296-2770 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(651) 297-7855 (Fax)

www.mnaging.org

E-mail: mba@state.mn.us

Jim Varpness, Director, Department of Human Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Eligibility requirements: Age 60 for services.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Health Care Directive, Planning Ahead, caregiving brochures, Senior LinkAge Line (brochures), Senior Spotlight (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Legal Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides health insurance counseling.

Housing Services: Adult Foster Care provides sleeping accommodations and services for four to five adults and is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

In-Home Services: Offers Meals on Wheels senior dining. Offers assistance with housekeeping, yard work, snow shoveling and minor home repair and modification.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Legal Services: Provides legal assistance to seniors.

Transportation: Offers transportation services.

Minnesota Department of Education: Division of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State educational services

1500 Highway 36 West

Roseville, MN 55113-4266

Tel: (651) 582-8200

(651) 582-8202 (Fax)

www.education.state.mn.us

Norena Hale, Director of Special Education,
norena.hale@state.mn.us

Jan Rubenstein, Part C Coordinator, Interagency Early Childhood Intervention Program, (651) 582-8436,
(651) 582-8494 (Fax), jan.rubenstein@state.mn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer supplemental state funds for visually impaired children attending local schools.

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Funded by: Public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation on educational services to local schools and to the state residential school.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Minnesota's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Oversees the provision of educational services for students who are blind or visually impaired in Minnesota.

Minnesota Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- National Library Service library

388 SE 6th Avenue

Faribault, MN 55021-6340

Tel: (800) 722-0550 (Nationwide toll-free number)

(507) 333-4828

(507) 333-4832 (Fax)

www.education.state.mn.us/html/intro_mlbph.html

E-mail: mn.lbph@state.mn.us

Catherine A. Durivage, Library Director, Minnesota Department of Education, State Libraries & School Technology, Minnesota Department of Children, Families, and Learning, Library Development and Services, (507) 333-4829,

catherine.durivage@state.mn.us

Darlene Arnold, Librarian, darlene.arnold@state.mn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide reading materials in multiple formats for recreational and lifelong learning needs of visually, physically, and reading disabled patrons in Minnesota.

Established: 1933.

County/District where located: Rice County.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 11.5 full-time employees.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Minnesota Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

3601 Minnesota Drive

Suite 800

Minneapolis, MN 55435

Tel: (800) 678-8232

(952) 841-1122

(800) 678-8232 (TDD/TTY)

(952) 921-5801 (Fax)

www.mneyedocs.org/

Jim Meffert-Nelson, Executive Director,

jim@mneyedocs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Minnesota Resource Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)

615 Olof Hanson Drive

Faribault, MN 55021

Tel: (800) 657-3859 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(507) 332-5510 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(507) 332-5494 (Fax)

www.cfl.state.mn.us/

Jean Martin, Contact Person, Special Education,

jean.martin@state.mn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To function as a statewide resource center for all children and youth who are blind or visually impaired, their parents, and educational service providers. To increase training opportunities for professionals and parents related to special education and services for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1988.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp, elevator.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: Minnesota Braille Skills Inventory.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Helps to plan in-service training.

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Minnesota.

Library: Performs computerized media searches but is not a statewide depository for materials.

Professional Training: In-service training available.

Minnesota STAR Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

50 Sherburne Avenue

Room 309

St. Paul, MN 55155

Tel: (800) 657-3895 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state)

(651) 296-2771

(651) 296-9478 (TDD/TTY)

(651) 282-6671 (Fax)

www.admin.state.mn.us/assistivetechology

E-mail: star.program.state.mn.us

Chuck Rassbach, Executive Director

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Maintains a searchable database for funding of assistive technology in Minnesota.

Information and Referral: Informs Minnesotans about issues of assistive technology. Produces STAR Point, an Internet radio resource which aims to educate Minnesotans on a broad array of issues related to assistive technology, assistive technology services and legislation regarding access to information technology and accessibility issues in general.

Minnesota State Academy for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

400 SE Sixth Avenue

Faribault, MN 55021

Tel: (800) 657-3634

(507) 333-4800

(507) 333-4825 (Fax)

www.msab.state.mn.us

E-mail: info@msab.state.mn.us

Linda Mitchell, Administrator,

linda.mitchell@state.mn.us

Wade Karli, Director of Education,

wkarli@msab.state.mn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational services on a 24-hour basis for enrolled students, based on legally mandated individual education plans (IEPs) when the local school district of residence cannot meet the educational needs of the student. Non-enrolled students are eligible for educational services in support of maintaining attendance within their local school district of residence and are served either at MSAB or within their local district.

Established: 1866.

County/District where located: Rice County.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Eligibility requirements: Must qualify as visually impaired based on Minnesota Special Education criteria/referred by local school.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM (office hours). School office telephone: 507-333-4800.

Accessibility: Facilities are accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories, almost entirely for weekday use.

Budget: \$10,500,000.

Clients served annually: 200+.

Staff: Professionally trained staff licensed in content areas and visual impairments; full range of related services as support to the educational program.

Fee structure: Free to residents of Minnesota.

Additional information: MSAB offers coursework through the Faribault Public Schools which provides opportunities within a mainstream environment; students participate in competitive sports with other state schools for the blind; 24-hour educational programming; high expectations of all students; low teacher/pupil ratios as necessary to create a quality learning environment.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Comprehensive computer training to be used as a tool for learning and access to curriculum.

Counseling: Offers career and guidance counseling.

Education Services: Core and expanded core curriculum taught. Provides instruction from 0-12th grade.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational training, off-site, on-the-job work experience.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and daily living skills.

Minnesota State Services for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Independent living program

■ Radio reading station

■ State rehabilitation services

2200 University Avenue West
Suite 240

St. Paul, MN 55114-1840

Tel: (800) 652-9000

(651) 642-0500

(651) 642-0506 (TDD/TTY)

(651) 649-5927 (Fax)

www.mnssb.org/

E-mail: info@ngwmail.des.state.mn.us

Chuk Hamilton, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To foster the achievement of vocational and personal independence by Minnesotans of all ages who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1923.

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone of age in Minnesota with a vision loss. Eligibility for specific programs varies.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Offers counseling in adjustment to blindness.

Employment: Operates franchise operations for legally blind vendors. Provides vocational training, job placement.

Library: Maintains special library and transcription service providing reading material in alternate formats to citizens of Minnesota who have difficulty reading normal print.

Parent Assistance: Parent information provided.

Reading Services: Radio Talking Book (RTB), a closed-circuit reading network, broadcasts twenty-four hours daily to more than 7,500 handicapped persons (with a potential of 35,000) in Minnesota and South Dakota. Dial-In News (newspapers accessed by touchtone phone). 651-649-5905 or 800-652-9000.

Rehabilitation: Offers vocational rehabilitation services including rehabilitation counseling, braille instruction, travel training, I.L.S. training, assistive technology services. Provides independent living services to persons age 55 and older. Assists elderly blind or visually handicapped individuals to function more independently within their environment.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Bemidji: 616 America Avenue NW, Suite 230, Bemidji, MN 56601-3866

Brainerd: 1919 South Sixth Street, Brainerd, MN 56401-4526

Duluth: 320 West Second Street, Suite 205, Duluth, MN 55802-1494

Hibbing: 3920 13th Avenue East, PO Box 68, Hibbing, MN 55746-4600

Mankato: 12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1600B, Mankato, MN 56001-7797

Marshall: Lyon County Government Center, 607 West Main Street, Marshall, MN 56258-2087

Moorhead: Family Service Center of Clay County, 715 11th Street North, Suite 205, Moorhead, MN 56560-2083

Rochester: 300 11th Avenue NW, Rochester, MN 55901-1801

Saint Cloud: 3333 West Division Street, Suite 212, Saint Cloud, MN 56301-3783

Saint Paul: 2200 University Avenue, Suite 240, Saint Paul, MN 55114-1840

Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, Inc. (MGFA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Association to Promote the Use of Braille

See U.S. National Organizations.

Regions Hospital: Low Vision Clinic**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

640 Jackson Street

St. Paul, MN 55101

Tel: (651) 221-3456

www.regionshospital.com/

Dianna K. Graves, C.O.M.T.

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Sight & Hearing Association**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**

■ **Information/referral center**

674 Transfer Road

St. Paul, MN 55114-1402

Tel: (800) 992-0424

(651) 645-2546

(651) 645-2742 (Fax)

www.sightandhearing.org

E-mail: mail@sightandhearing.org

Kathy J. Webb, Executive Director,
kwebb@sightandhearing.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people prevent the needless loss of vision and hearing through education, screening, and research.

Established: 1939.

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Minnesota.

Eligibility requirements: Kindergarten readiness for preschoolers (glaucoma screening, visual acuity screening by request).

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
 Screenings available on weekends by appointment.
Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.
Fee structure: Per-child screening fee from Head Starts.
Publications: Sights & Sound (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Adult home eye tests, fact sheets, Bright Eyes (children's eye book). Products for sale on site and online.
Community Outreach Programs: Provides public speakers to groups to identify those in need of services and referral.
Early Intervention: Offers preschool screening in group settings.
Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to outside sources. Distributes literature on preventing blindness and hearing loss.
Parent Assistance: Offers support to parents of children who are screened.

University of Minnesota: Department of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

516 Delaware Street, SE
 Minneapolis, MN 55455-0501
 Tel: (612) 625-4400
www.ahc.umn.edu/ahc_content/colleges/med_school/departments/ophthalmology/index.cfm
 Jay Krachmer, Chairman, krach001@umn.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hennepin County.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Staff: Ophthalmologist, ophthalmology residents, ophthalmic assistant/technician, ophthalmic nurse.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Vision Loss Resources

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1936 Lyndale Avenue South
 Minneapolis, MN 55403
 Tel: (651) 224-7662 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (651) 224-9526 (Fax)

www.visionlossresources.com

Steven A. Fischer, Executive Director, SteveF@vlrw.org
 Frank Alden, Community Instructor, OM & Rehabilitation, Low Vision Specialist
 Kelly McCrary, Program Manager, OM Instructor, Kellym@vlrw.org
 Ellen Morrow, Program Manager, Counselor
 Stacy Wertheimer, Community Center Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons to achieve their potential, and to enhance the lives of all persons affected by blindness or visual impairment.

Established: 1914.

County/District where located: Hennepin County.

Geographic area served: Rehabilitation services: Minnesota. Community services: 9-county metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 4000.

Staff: 30.

Additional information: Large comprehensive Community Services Program available to all ages. New Community Center.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Administers comprehensive in-home assessments for seniors.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers English as second language program for blind and visually impaired persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers community education, Diversity Outreach, vision and hearing screenings.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers group, family, and individual counseling, large peer-counseling program.

Health/Fitness: Maintains a fitness center and offers one-to-one instruction and classes.

Health/Medical: Offers instruction in diabetes management.

Low Vision: Provides in-home and in-center vision evaluation, CCTV evaluations. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Runs a One-to-One Volunteer Program.

Professional Training: Offers internship fieldwork training in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation.

Recreation: Offers classes, clubs, fitness, field trips, crafts, woodworking in the Community Center.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in the use of technology, activities of daily living, leisure education, fitness, calculator/keyboard/computer skills in the community and at the center.

Support Groups: Facilitates support groups for seniors with volunteers and peer counselors.

LOCAL OFFICES

St. Paul: 216 South Wabash Street, St. Paul, MN 55107

Volunteer Braille Services (VBS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

1710 Douglas Drive N. #102

Golden Valley, MN 55422

Tel: (763) 544-2880

(763) 544-3612 (Fax)

www.vbsmn.org

E-mail: vbsbrl@aol.com

Cindi Laurent, Coordinator, vbsbrl@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To train sighted volunteers to become certified braille transcribers who will accept assignments and maintain a catalog of completed titles for sale.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Hennepin County.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, private donations.

Staff: 2. Office Coordinator; Format Coordinator.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks and text materials other than computer-related materials.

Library: Maintains children's print and braille library, serving grades K-12.

Mississippi

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Mississippi Department of Human Services:
Aging and Adult Services
(800) 948-3090

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation
Services: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
for the Blind
(800) 443-1000

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Mississippi Department of Health: Infant and
Toddler Program
(800) 451-3903

Educational Services

Mississippi Department of Education
(601) 359-3513

Instructional Materials Center

Mississippi Instructional Resource Center
(601) 984-8226

Rehabilitation Services

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation
Services: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
for the Blind
(800) 443-1000

School for the Blind

Mississippi School for the Blind
(601) 984-8200

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Information/Referral Centers

Christian Association for Rehabilitation and Education
Ministries

Libraries

Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services,
Mississippi Library Commission (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Mississippi School for the Blind
University of Mississippi Medical Center: Department
of Ophthalmology

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Association of Visually Impaired Attorneys
Mississippi Optometric Association

National Organizations

American Association of Visually Impaired Attorneys
Christian Association for Rehabilitation and Education
Ministries

Mississippi State University: Rehabilitation Research
and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision

Postsecondary Institutions

Jackson State University: Department of Special
Education and Rehabilitative Services
Mississippi State University: Rehabilitation Research
and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision

Radio Reading Stations

Radio Reading Service of Mississippi

Rehabilitation Agencies

Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center for the Blind
Christian Association for Rehabilitation and Education
Ministries
LC Industries: Signature Works Division
Mississippi Industries for the Blind

Research Organizations

Mississippi State University: Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision

Schools for the Blind

Mississippi School for the Blind

Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center for the Blind (AMRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2550 Peachtree Street
Jackson, MS 39296-5314
Tel: (800) 443-1000
(601) 364-2700
(601) 853-5100 (TDD/TTY)
(601) 364-2677 (Fax)
www.mdrs.state.ms.us/client/addie.html

Karen E. Brown, Director,
karen.brown@mdrs.state.ms.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a timely and quality program of comprehensive rehabilitation services for people with a visual impairment that will result in improved quality of life, employment opportunities, social and economic independence, and integration into the community.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Hinds County.

Geographic area served: Mississippi. Accepts out-of-state referrals as space is available.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, deaf-blind or multihandicapped.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Accessible to wheelchair users and deaf persons.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory facilities available for 28 residents.

Staff: Teaching staff are certified rehabilitation teachers and/or certified O&M instructors.

Fee structure: \$191 per day or \$955 per week (includes weekends).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides low vision assessments, vocational evaluations, and assistive technology evaluations.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers extensive outreach program to support outside entities.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

State Technology Programs

Mississippi Project START

Counseling: Offers comprehensive social and psychological evaluations and personal and group counseling.

Education Services: Offers GED preparatory program on-site.

Employment: Provides vocational evaluations and information and training in job-seeking skills, business enterprise programs, clerical work, and data entry.

Health/Medical: Offers general medical and ophthalmological evaluations and visual acuity, glaucoma, and basic health screenings on routine basis.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Provides orientation to blindness training on a frequent basis.

Recreation: Offers training and activities for independent participation in community programs, physical conditioning and has an after-hours recreation specialist on staff.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home and personal management, braille, handwriting, typing, word processing, and leisure education. Offers services to those 55 and above including Independent Living Program for Older Blind.

American Association of Visually Impaired Attorneys

See U.S. National Organizations.

Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services, Mississippi Library Commission

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1221 Ellis Avenue
Jackson, MS 39209-7328
Tel: (800) 446-0892 (Available nationwide)
(601) 961-4111
(800) 446-0892 (TDD/TTY)
(601) 713-3395 (TDD/TTY) (TDD)
(601) 354-7007 (Fax)
www.mlc.lib.ms.us/lbph.htm
E-mail: lbph@mlc.lib.ms.us

Rahye Puckett, Librarian, rahye@mlc.lib.ms.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library and information services to all Mississippi residents unable to read standard print due to a visual impairment or physical disability.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Hinds County.

Geographic area served: Mississippi.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual impairments and physical disabilities that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 1 to 102.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Building is ADA accessible and is accessible by public transportation.

Budget: \$326,671.

Clients served annually: 6,200.

Staff: 8. 2 professional librarians, 5 paraprofessionals, 1 technician.

Publications: The Reading Light quarterly newsletter, patron handbook, descriptive video catalogs, bibliographies, and service brochures.

Additional information: Serves as the Mississippi Regional library for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book players, descriptive videos, large-print books, and locally produced audiocassettes for visually impaired and physically disabled individuals. Also serves institutions (with eligible individuals) including libraries, schools, senior citizen centers, military retirement homes, adult daycare centers, children's daycare facilities, nursing homes, senior retirement centers.

Christian Association for Rehabilitation and Education Ministries (CARE Ministries)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

Jackson State University: Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

1400 JR Lynch Street

Jackson, MS 39217

Tel: (601) 979-2370

(601) 979-4190 (Fax)

www.ccaix.jsums.edu

E-mail: templeway@aol.com

Celestine R. Jefferson-Aker, Chairman, Department of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services,
celestine.r.jefferson@jsums.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hinds County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Graduate certification programs for teachers of visually impaired students.

LC Industries: Signature Works Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1 Signature Drive

Hazlehurst, MS 39083

Tel: (800) 647-2468

(601) 894-1771

(601) 894-2993 (Fax)

William L. Hudson, President, bill.hudson@lc-ind.com
Jeff Easterling, Vice President,
jeff.easterling@lc-ind.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide competitive vocational training for persons who are totally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind, multiply disabled blind, learning disabled blind, mentally retarded blind, emotionally disturbed blind, and clients with epilepsy and other disabilities if also blind.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: All locations meet accessibility guidelines.

Residential Facilities: Group homes for developmentally disabled blind adults. On-site residences for trainees; off-site apartments for employees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers individual counseling.

Employment: Provides career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, competitive and transitional employment.

Professional Training: Offers regular training programs and summer and short-term training.
Recreation: Offers evening and weekend recreational programs.

LOCAL OFFICES

Ellisville: P.O. Box 667, Ellisville, MS 39437
Gulfport: 424 34th Street, Gulfport, MS 39501
Jackson: 1252 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211
Jackson: 300 Capers Avenue, Jackson, MS 39203
Natchez: 800 Washington Street, Natchez, MS 39120
Sanitorium: P.O. Box 128, Sanitorium, MS 39112
Tupelo: 1151 South Veterans Boulevard, Tupelo, MS 38801
Whitfield: Hudspeth Center, Whitfield, MS 39193

Mississippi Department of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Central High School Building
 359 NW Street
 Jackson, MS 39205
 Tel: (601) 359-3513
www.mde.k12.ms.us
 Henry Johnson, State Superintendent of Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hinds County.
Geographic area served: Mississippi.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Approves programs for visually handicapped students in Mississippi public schools. Works closely with Mississippi School for the Blind.

Mississippi Department of Health: Infant and Toddler Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

570 East Woodrow Wilson Drive
 Jackson, MS 39215-1700
 Tel: (800) 451-3903
 (601) 576-7427
 (601) 576-7540 (Fax)
www.msds.state.ms.us

Roy Heart, Division Director, IDEA Part C Coordinator,
 Infant and Toddler Program,
roy.heart@msds.state.ms.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hinds County.
Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or conditions that could lead to delays.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses children birth to age 3 for various conditions including visual impairment.
Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to providers of health care and preschool educational services.
Early Intervention: Lead agency for Mississippi's early intervention system as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Maintains central directory of early intervention services for children birth to age 3.
Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to relevant state agencies and community resources.

Mississippi Department of Human Services: Aging and Adult Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

750 North State Street
 Jackson, MS 39202
 Tel: (800) 948-3090
 (601) 359-4929
 (601) 359-9664 (Fax)
www.mdhs.state.ms.us/aas.html
 Marion Dunn Tutor, Director,
mdunn-tutor@mdhs.state.ms.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To keep pace with the needs of the state's older citizens and to improve their quality of life.
County/District where located: Hinds County.
Geographic area served: Mississippi.
Ages served: 60 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.
Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program ■ State rehabilitation services

1281 Highway 51 North
 Madison, MS 39110
 Tel: (800) 443-1000
 (601) 853-5100 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (601) 853-5205 (Fax)
www.mdrs.state.ms.us
 E-mail: mgandy@mdrs.state.ms.us

Michael Gandy, Director,
Michael.Gandy@mdrs.state.ms.us
Vicki Bond, Project Director, Independent Living
Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the personal and vocational needs specific to those who have a severe loss of sight through a variety of special programs.

Established: 1928.

County/District where located: Madison County.

Geographic area served: Mississippi.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired senior in high school.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible facilities.

Residential Facilities: Two personal adjustment facilities with dorms, the Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center for the Blind in Jackson (traditional) and The REACH Center for the Blind in Tupelo (structured discovery).

Funded by: Lions Clubs, public funds, state funds.

Clients served annually: c. 2,200.

Staff: c. 93. Rehabilitation counselors and teachers, independent living instructors, two rehabilitation facilities' staff, mid-level managers, office director.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: Annual Report, State Rehabilitation Council Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, In-Home Services, Rehabilitation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers itinerant teacher program and provides training and instruction in homes and communities.

Counseling: Offers counseling by specialized counselors for people who are blind or visually impaired within each of the nine Vocational Rehabilitation Districts.

Employment: Offers job training and placement.

Health/Medical: Provides therapeutic treatment for older blind individuals.

In-Home Services: Provides home instruction for the elderly.

Rehabilitation: Provides statewide program for independent living services, itinerant teaching program, assistive technology evaluation, mobility training, personal management. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

Mississippi Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2501 N. West Street
Jackson, MS 38296
Tel: (601) 984-3200
(601) 987-3892 (Fax)
www.msblind.org/
E-mail: dhey@msblind.org
Joe Carballo, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide blind persons with employment.

Established: 1938.

County/District where located: Hinds County.

Geographic area served: Jackson, Mississippi.

Ages served: 20 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 105.

Staff: 70.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides employment training. Sells manufactured products on site and online.

LOCAL OFFICES

Meridian: 6603 Laurel Drive, Meridian, MS 39307

Mississippi Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

Mississippi School for the Blind
1252 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211
Tel: (601) 984-8226
www2.mde.k12.ms.us/msb/
Kevin Clinard, Coordinator, kclinard@mde.k12.ms.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Maintains a depository for large type and braille textbooks for distribution to visually impaired and blind school children attending approved schools in Mississippi. Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Mississippi.

Mississippi Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

5420 1-55 North
Suite D
Jackson, MS 39236
Tel: (601) 956-7412
(601) 956-7468 (Fax)
E-mail: msopmetr@aol.com
Helen St. Clair, Executive Director

Mississippi Project START

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

P.O. Box 1698
Jackson, MS 39215-1000
Tel: (800) 852-8328 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state.)
(601) 987-4872
(601) 364-2349 (Fax)
www.msprojectstart.org
E-mail: contactus@msprojectstart.org
Stephen Power, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure the provision of appropriate technology-related services for Mississippians with disabilities by increasing the awareness of and access to assistive technology and by helping the existing service systems to become more consumer responsive so that all Mississippians with disabilities will receive appropriate technology-related services and devices.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Has a short-term loan program for equipment or devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Conducts training and presentations on assistive technology throughout the year to employees of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, nursing schools, secondary schools, community colleges, colleges and universities.

Mississippi School for the Blind (MSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ School for the blind

1252 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211
Tel: (601) 984-8200
(601) 984-8097 (TDD/TTY)
(601) 984-8230 (Fax)
www2.mde.k12.ms.us/msb/
Rosie T. Pridgen, Superintendent, (601) 984-8203,
rosiepridgen@mde.k12.ms.us
Janys G. Canizaro, Director, Counseling Services, (601)
984-8212, (601) 984-8232 (Fax),
jcanizaro@mde.k12.ms.us
Vashti Clayton, Principal, Elementary Department,
(601) 984-8202, (601) 984-8232 (Fax),
vclayton@mde.k12.ms.us
Ted Dear, Director, Pre-School Homebased Program,
tdear@mde.k12.ms.us
Claudia Hollingsworth, Coordinator, Admissions and
Outreach, chollingsworth@mde.k12.ms.us

Billy Mayfield, Principal, High School, (601) 984-8211,
(601) 984-8232 (Fax), bmayfield@mde.k12.ms.us
Margie Owens, Coordinator, Curriculum, (601)
984-8210, mowens@mde.k12.ms.us
Eddie L. Spann, Director, Pre-Vocational/Deaf-Blind
Department, (601) 984-8159, (601) 984-8232 (Fax),
espann@mde.k12.ms.us
William Stokes, Director, Bureau of Residential
Services, (601) 984-8220, (601) 984-8232 (Fax),
bstokes@mde.k12.ms.us
Diann Turner, Supervisor, Residential Education
Parents, (601) 984-8205, (601) 984-8232 (Fax),
dturner@mde.k12.ms.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the development of each student's maximum potential by providing specialized services, materials, and technology and by implementing curricula which meet the individual needs of students.

Established: 1848.

County/District where located: Hinds County.

Geographic area served: Mississippi.

Eligibility requirements: Visual acuity of 20/100 or worse in the better eye after the best possible correction. Students who are multiply disabled are also accepted if their visual impairment is determined to be the primary disabling condition.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for residential students.

Funded by: State funds.

Staff: Teachers of the visually handicapped and early childhood, O&M specialist, other related services personnel available as consultants on a limited basis. Uses volunteers.

Publications: MSB Reflections (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provided for parents, schools and school district personnel. By appointment.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides home-based and consultant services to other programs for visually impaired children on a limited basis. Scheduled outreach services available.

Counseling: Offers parent and other counseling, limited psychological testing and evaluation,

individual, group, family/parent counseling, placement in school, referral to community services. Consultation provided to other schools and agencies upon request.

Early Intervention: Offers home-based preschool program.

Education Services: Provides instruction in all developmental areas, grades K-12, deaf-blind-multihandicapped unit. Programs include general academic, vocational skill development, daily living skills. Offers school program for children ages 5-21 and home-based program for children ages 0-5. Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Mississippi.

Employment: Offers occupational skill development, work-study, and work-experience programs.

Health/Medical: Provides general medical services for students. Refers for other health services.

Library: Maintains a library of braille books and magazines and large-print books.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to parents through in-house visits and workshops.

Preschool: Offers home-based program, developmental and pre-mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship, fieldwork placement, and in-service training programs.

Recreation: Offers after-school activities—swimming, track, wrestling, cheerleading, track and field, arts and crafts, music, drama.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and home economics. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

Mississippi State University: Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision (RRTC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Radio Reading Service of Mississippi

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211
Tel: (601) 432-6301
(601) 432-6806 (Fax)

www.mpbonline.org

E-mail: rrrsm@mpbonline.org

Mike Duke, Reading Service Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Hinds County.

Geographic area served: Mississippi.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or print handicapped.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Clients served annually: 5000.

Staff: 2. Two full-time employees and sixty volunteers per week.

Fee structure: State-funded and donations accepted.

Additional information: Eligible individuals are provided with a radio compatible with the frequency for their geographic area, free of charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from various newspapers and magazines, current bestsellers, sports, health, financial, entertainment, travel, and topics of national and special interest. Publications include the Clarion-Ledger, The Sun Herald, Copiah County Courier, The New York Times, Redbook, Time, American Health, The Christian Science Monitor, Mississippi Magazine, Mississippi Business Journal.

University of Mississippi Medical Center: Department of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216-4505
Tel: (601) 984-5020
(601) 984-5031 (Fax)
E-mail: mcloer@ophth.umsmed.edu
Mark F. Cloer, Director, Low Vision,
mcloer@ophth.umsmed.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, ophthalmology resident, ophthalmic assistant/technician, low vision assistant, social worker, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, psychologist/counselor, rehabilitation counselor, genetic counselor, audiologist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Provides hands-on supervised training. Database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:
Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center**

See Alabama.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco
Blind Rehabilitation Center**

See Texas.

Missouri

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

(800) 392-0210

Missouri Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

(800) 592-6004

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

(573) 751-4212

Educational Services

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

(573) 751-4212

Instructional Materials Center

Missouri APH Materials Center

(800) 622-5672

Rehabilitation Services

Missouri Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

(800) 592-6004

School for the Blind

Missouri School for the Blind

(800) 622-5672

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Midwestern Braille Volunteers

Special School District: Saint Louis County

Talking Tapes/Textbooks on Tape

Educational Agencies

Special School District: Saint Louis County

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Children's Center for the Visually Impaired

Information/Referral Centers

American Optometric Association: Low Vision Rehabilitation Section

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Libraries

Lutheran Blind Mission

Talking Tapes/Textbooks on Tape

Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center: VICTORS Program

Optometric Center of St. Louis

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired

St. Louis University: Eye Institute

Washington University Eye Center: Low Vision Services

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Optometric Association

Missouri Optometric Association

Missouri Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

National Organizations

American Optometric Association

National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind

Rehabilitation Agencies

Alphapointe Association for the Blind

Lighthouse for the Blind

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Residential Facilities

Mary Culver Home

Schools for the Blind

Missouri School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments

State Technology Programs

Missouri Assistive Technology Project

Alphapointe Association for the Blind**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Rehabilitation agency**

7501 Prospect
 Kansas City, MO 64132
 Tel: (816) 421-5848
 (816) 237-2065 (Fax)
 www.alphapointe.org
 E-mail: info@alphapointe.org
 Thomas E. Healy, President, (816) 221-8101, (816)
 421-7180 (Fax), tomh@alphapointe.org
 Kelly Guthrie, Volunteer Coordinator
 Richard Knight, Executive Vice President,
 richardk@alphapointe.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons in the greater Kansas City area to maintain dignity and independence by making available rehabilitation, employment, advocacy, and support services that meet the needs of blind persons.

Established: 1916.

County/District where located: Jackson County.

Geographic area served: Missouri, eastern Kansas.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: Most services provided at no charge. Direct rehabilitative services usually paid for by state blindness agency.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells assistive products.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Employment: Offers vocational training and maintains a manufacturing plant (pens, pill bottles, urine specimen bottles, spray bottles).

Health/Medical: Offers diabetes education.

In-Home Services: Provides in-home assistance for seniors.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other agencies.

Library: Provides braille transcription and cassette tapes.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, communication (braille and computer instruction) skills and vocational rehabilitation.

American Optometric Association (AOA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Optometric Association: Low Vision Rehabilitation Section**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Information/referral center**

243 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
 St. Louis, MO 63141
 Tel: (800) 365-2219
 (314) 991-4100
 (314) 991-4101 (Fax)
 www.aoa.org
 E-mail: lvs@aoa.org
 Stephanie D. Brown, Manager, Low Vision
 Rehabilitation Section, sdbrown@aoa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Refers to local optometrists providing low vision rehabilitation services.

Professional Training: Offers continuing education programs for optometrists in area of low vision rehabilitation.

Children's Center for the Visually Impaired**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Infant/preschool agency**

3101 Main Street
 Kansas City, MO 64111-1921
 Tel: (816) 841-2284
 (816) 753-7836 (Fax)
 www.ccvl.org
 E-mail: ccvkc@crn.org
 Mary Lynne K. Dolembro, Executive Director,
 mldccvi@crn.org
 Ann Berquist, Director, Infant Program

Lisa Sprenger, Social Worker

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prepare children who are blind or visually impaired, including those with multiple disabilities, to function at their highest potential in the sighted world.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Jackson County.

Geographic area served: Serves 60-mile radius of Kansas City (consultation beyond Kansas and Missouri).

Eligibility requirements: Any child with visual impairment, birth through school age.

Ages served: 0 to 7.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Fee structure: Fees for service, sliding scale, scholarships.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision evaluations, learning media assessments, speech/language evaluations, fine/gross motor evaluations, and cognitive evaluations.

Assistive Products: Distributes holiday cards with greeting in print and braille. Products for sale on site and by mail order.

Community Outreach Programs: Has speakers bureau and provides itinerant services.

Counseling: Offers parent counseling and other social and health services on consultant or referral basis.

Early Intervention: Offers home-based infant/toddler program with periodic center visits for evaluation of child's progress by team of teachers and therapists.

Education Services: Provides early childhood and kindergarten classes and itinerant services for all ages. Offers home-based program with periodic center visits for visually impaired 0-3 year olds with or without other impairments, classes for visually impaired 2-5 year olds, with or without other impairments, as well as sighted peer models, and consultant services to other programs and itinerant services to outlying school districts.

Health/Medical: Offers hearing and vision screening.

Information and Referral: Refers to other agencies.

Parent Assistance: Has a parent support group.

Preschool: Offers classes for children from age 2 through kindergarten, sighted peer models, braille instruction, orientation and mobility, occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy.

Recreation: Offers summer school for children from ages 2 through kindergarten.

Support Groups: Facilitates a support group for parents of children with visual impairments.

Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

5030 McRee

St. Louis, MO 63110

Tel: (800) 341-4310

(314) 776-1300

(314) 776-7808 (Fax)

www.dgckids.org

E-mail: info@dgckids.org

Debbie Naucke, Executive Director,

danaucke@dgckids.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help infants and young children who are blind or visually impaired reach their full potential by providing individualized education, therapy and support services to them and their families.

Established: 1951.

County/District where located: St. Louis.

Geographic area served: 50 miles in all directions from office; includes 5 counties in Missouri and 5 counties in Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment diagnosed by a physician.

Ages served: 0 to 18.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, some evenings/weekends.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$820,000.

Clients served annually: 200.

Staff: 19. 6 full-time, 6 part-time staff and 7 therapists on a per diem employment arrangement. Professional program staff include three VI teachers, one social worker, 3 occupational therapists, 3 physical therapists, 2 speech therapists.

Fee structure: No fees for early intervention services. Fees for some family support services.

Publications: You, Your Baby and Anophthalmia (video); Beyond the Stares: A Personal Journal for Siblings of Children with Disabilities, In Touch with Your Baby's Development (books).

Additional information: Consistent with the family-centered philosophy of the organization, the Center offers a wide variety of family support activities, including groups for parents, grandparents, siblings and three recreation and support groups for graduates of the Center's early intervention services (up through high school).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Performs functional vision assessments for newly diagnosed children to determine visual functioning and recommendations for service. Also

provides occupational, physical, speech therapy evaluations and assistive technology assessments.

Assistive Products: Has a toy-lending program and provides assistive technology services including evaluations and purchase of recommended equipment.

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach to the two children's hospitals in St. Louis; "ability awareness" programs for local school districts; "Saturday Seminars" consisting of low cost seminars for community professionals on a number of topics pertaining to young children with special needs and/or visual impairments.

Counseling: Offers parent counseling, referrals to community programs, assistance in school placement.

Early Intervention: Offers home- and center-based instruction from teachers of the visually impaired. Provides occupational, physical, and speech therapy and training in orientation and mobility and use of assistive technology.

Information and Referral: Refers to local, state, and national resources.

Library: Maintains loan library for families served.

Low Vision: Provides sunglasses and canes.

Recreation: Sponsors a variety of family activities for parents of young children. Provides group recreation and developmental support groups for children ages 3 through high school graduation.

Support Groups: Has support groups for parents, grandparents, siblings and alumni, and Parent-to-Parent Program.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Great Plains Region Office (HKNC)

See Kansas.

Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center: VICTORS Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

4801 Linwood Boulevard

Kansas City, MO 64128

Tel: (800) 525-1483

(816) 861-4700

(816) 922-3382 (Fax)

Sarah Starnes, Coordinator, VICTORS Program,
sarah.starnes@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a goal-oriented rehabilitation program emphasizing individual independence through therapy, training, and the use of low vision prosthetic and assistive devices.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Jackson County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Locates and identifies veterans in the community who would benefit from low vision program.

Counseling: Has a social worker on staff as well as Vision Impairment Service Team (VIST) coordinator.

Information and Referral: Refers first to other visual impairment rehabilitation centers within VA system, but also to community-based external resources.

Library: Loans talking books via associated library. Maintains learning center with closed-circuit television, computers, and readers.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Offers low vision services to senior veterans.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training and sighted guide training for low-vision rehabilitation workers.

Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

10440 Trenton Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63132-1223

Tel: (800) 542-3697

(314) 423-4333

(314) 423-0139 (Fax)

www.lhbindustries.com

John W. Thompson, President,
jwthompson@lhblindindustries.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons through rehabilitation and other social services.

Established: 1933.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: St. Louis metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: 20/200 vision or worse in both eyes with best correction. Field restriction of 10 degrees.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, workshop sales.

Publications: Insight (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultation services.

Employment: Offers evaluation and pre-vocational training. Sells products manufactured in workshops.

(first aid kits, aerosol paints, pressurized air dusters, dog repellent). Products for sale online and on site.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, skill-training, and work opportunity.

LOCAL OFFICES

Berkeley: 8833 Fleischer Place, Berkeley, MO 63134

Lutheran Blind Mission

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

7550 Watson Road

St. Louis, MO 63119

Tel: (888) 215-2455

(314) 918-0415

(314) 963-0738 (Fax)

www.blindmission.org

E-mail: blind.mission@blindmission.org

Lynne Borchelt, Assistant, lynne.borchelt@lcms.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide braille, large-print, cassette periodicals, and books for the blind and visually impaired.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations.

Publications: The Lutheran Messenger, The Lutheran Witness, The Lutheran Digest, The Lutheran Women Missionary League Quarterly, The Lutheran Layman, My Devotions, Happy Times, Portals of Prayer, Strength for the Day, Teen Time, Catechisms, Higher Things.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Maintains a large collection of cassette and braille reading materials available on loan to anyone who is legally blind.

Mary Culver Home

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Residential facility

221 West Washington Avenue

Kirkwood, MO 63122

Tel: (314) 966-6034

(314) 966-5462 (Fax)

www.maryculverhome.com/faqs.htm

E-mail: mchome@sbcglobal.net

Colleen S. Hill, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide life care to blind or legally blind women within the state of Missouri.

Established: 1867.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Legally or totally blind, a resident of the state of Missouri, and Medicare eligible.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: Newsletter, brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Counseling: Maintains a social worker designee on staff.

Health/Medical: Offers typical nursing home services for the elderly.

Housing Services: Provides housing for people who are visually impaired.

Reading Services: Offers numerous activities that include crafts, bingo, limbering, current events, fun & games, pet therapy, musicals, specialty nights, field trips as weather permits, multi-generational entertainment, and customized activities as requested by residents.

Midwestern Braille Volunteers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

325 North Kirkwood Road

Suite G5

St. Louis, MO 63122

Tel: (314) 966-5828

(314) 966-0388 (Fax)

www.mbvol.org

E-mail: mbvol@sbcglobal.net

Frank Lane, President

Loretta Bryant, Office Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons by translating books into braille.

Established: 1963.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Staff: 50 volunteers, including 8 braillists in addition to paid staff.

Fee structure: Cost of materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks and miscellaneous.

Missouri APH Materials Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

Missouri School for the Blind
 3815 Magnolia Avenue
 St. Louis, MO 63110
 Tel: (800) 622-5672
 (314) 776-4320
 (314) 776-1875 (Fax)
www.msb.k12.mo.us/resource%20guide%20info/aphcenter_b2.html
 Yvonne Ali, Supervisor, yali@msb.k12.mo.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Missouri.

Missouri Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **State technology program**

4731 South Cochise
 Suite 114
 Independence, MO 64055-6975
 Tel: (800) 647-8557 (In state)
 (816) 873-5193
 (800) 647-8558 (TDD/TTY) (In state)
 (816) 373-9315 (TDD/TTY)
 (816) 373-9314 (Fax)
www.dolir.state.mo.us/matp
 E-mail: matpmo@swbell.net
 Diane Golden, Ph.D., Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase access to assistive technology for Missourians with all types of disabilities, of all ages.

Established: 1991.

Publications: A wide variety of publications related to assistive technology and disability.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Maintains a listserv that focuses on disability related legislation in Missouri and provides brief summaries and updates on bills in the General Assembly dealing with a range of disability issues, including improving access to assistive technology devices and services.

Assistive Products: Operates the Equipment Technology Consortium (ETC) which is a short-term assistive technology equipment loan program for school districts and agencies in Missouri.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists school districts in covering the costs of assuring students have

the assistive technology they need in order to receive a free and appropriate education under IDEA. Provides training events on assistive technology, policies and related issues through direct sponsorship of training programs, coordination of training, and production and distribution of training materials.

Financial Assistance: Provides limited funding for assistive technology and some home access modifications for children under 21 years of age.

Provides low-interest loans to eligible persons with disabilities in Missouri to purchase assistive technology.

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Part C early intervention agency**■ **State educational services**

P.O. Box 480
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 Tel: (573) 751-4212
 (573) 751-8613 (Fax)
www.dese.state.mo.us
 E-mail: webreplyspe@dese.mo.gov
 D. Kent King, Commissioner, Division of Special Education, kking@mail.dese.state.mo.us
 Melodie Friedebach, Assistant Commissioner, Melodie.Friedebach@dese.mo.gov
 Deborah Parsons, Part C Coordinator and Director, deborah.parsons@dese.mo.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Cole County.

Geographic area served: Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requirements apply.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach services to public schools.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation, educational services.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Missouri's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Supervises administration of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B for children with disabilities age 3-21 in Colorado.

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

912 Wildwood
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Tel: (800) 392-0210 (Elderly Abuse and Neglect Hotline)
(573) 751-6001
(573) 751-6041 (Fax)
www.dhss.mo.gov
Richard C. Dunn, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To protect and promote quality of life and health for all Missourians by developing and implementing programs and systems that provide information and education, effective regulation and oversight, quality services, and surveillance of diseases and conditions.

Established: 2000.

County/District where located: Cole.

Geographic area served: Missouri.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and other local aging services.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services to blind and visually impaired persons.

Missouri Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

100 East High Street
Suite 301
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Tel: (573) 635-6151
(573) 635-7989 (Fax)
www.moeyecare.org
E-mail: moopt@socket.net
Zoe Lyle, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To preserve eye health and enhance vision.

Missouri Rehabilitation Services for the Blind (RSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

615 Howerton Court
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Tel: (800) 592-6004
(573) 751-4739
(573) 751-4984 (Fax)
www.dss.state.mo.us/dfs/rehab.htm

Michael C. Fester, Deputy Director, Division of Family Services, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind,
michael.c.fester@dss.mo.gov

Zeze Miller, Project Director, Independent Living Services

Keith Roderick, Prevention of Blindness Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons in achieving employment and independence.

Established: 1915.

County/District where located: Cole County.

Geographic area served: Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness, 20/70 or worse corrected acuity in the better eye if individual has a progressive eye disease.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Organization contracts with residential facilities.

Staff: Specialists in vocational rehabilitation counseling and teaching, employment, mobility instruction, prevention of blindness, blind enterprise program, children's specialist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assessments provided as needed.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides public education and information about blindness and the capacity of blind individuals.

Counseling: Offers consultation and referral services, psychological testing, counseling with parents of blind children.

Early Intervention: Provides advocacy, parent education and support services to families with blind/visually impaired children of all ages.

Employment: Offers evaluation, vocational training, job development and placement, support services, post-employment services, services to family members, training and placement of blind persons in vending facilities and other small business enterprises, computer/adaptive equipment training and job retention services. Offers postsecondary education for vocational rehabilitation clients.

Health/Medical: Provides vision screening, glaucoma testing, and diagnosis and follow-up treatment to eligible persons that may include surgery, hospitalization, eyeglasses, medication, prostheses.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Provides low vision devices for eligible consumers based on needs and plans.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides advocacy, parent education and support services to families with blind or visually impaired children of all ages.

Rehabilitation: Offers diagnosis and evaluation, counseling and guidance, referral, physical and mental restoration. Provides instruction in personal management, communication techniques, homemaking activities, travel, home mechanics and economics, and orientation and mobility. Provides services for blind or visually impaired Missourians age 55 and over with goal of increasing independence and remaining in the home.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Jefferson City: 308 East High Street, Suite B101, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Kansas City: 4900 Swope Parkway, Suite 2 South, Kansas City, MO 64130-2806

Kansas City: 615 East Thirteenth Street, Room 409, Kansas City, MO 64106

Sikeston: P.O. Box 369, 106 Arthur, Sikeston, MO 63801

Springfield: 149 Park Central Square, Room 640, Springfield, MO 65806

St. Ann: 10449 St. Charles Rock Road, Room 401, St. Ann, MO 63074-1827

St. Louis: Two Cambell Plaza, Floor 3B, St. Louis, MO 63139

Missouri School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

3815 Magnolia Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63110

Tel: (800) 622-5672 (In Missouri only)

(314) 776-4320

(314) 776-1875 (Fax)

www.msb.k12.mo.us

James W. Sucharski, Superintendent, (314) 772-1561
(Fax), jsucharski@msb.k12.mo.us

Barbara Beal, Director, Community Relations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To teach students to master basic academic, social, life, and work skills, to communicate effectively, to make responsible decisions, and to become lifelong learners and productive citizens.

County/District where located: City of St. Louis.

Geographic area served: Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind resident of Missouri.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision assessment, orientation and mobility assessment, and other assessments on a direct service basis.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach services in schools upon request.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultation services.

Counseling: Provides counseling as needed.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services through local schools.

Education Services: Provides educational and vocational program, grades K-12, for children who are blind, multiply disabled or deaf-blind.

Employment: Offers on- and off-campus jobs for students and supported work program.

Health/Medical: Offers health services on-site and in conjunction with local hospitals.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides direct in-home services.

Preschool: Offers home-based services through Parent Involvement Network.

Professional Training: Offers Weekends with the Experts training program for all professionals working with children, youths and adults who are blind or visually impaired; in-site and VIISA training; teacher certification offerings in conjunction with the University of Missouri, St. Louis.

Recreation: Offers sports programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills.

Missouri Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

Metro Square One, Suite 120

10 W. Phillip Road

Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1730

Tel: (847) 680-1666 (Local)

(847) 680-1682 (Fax)

www.midwesteyemd.org

E-mail: eyeorg@aol.com

Richard H. Paul, Executive Director

National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind (NCPAB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Optometric Center of St. Louis

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

3940 Lindell Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63108

Tel: (314) 535-5016

(314) 535-4741 (Fax)

www.umsi.edu/divisions/optometry/clinics/newocenter.html

E-mail: OpStuAff@msx.umsi.edu

Edward Jarka, Faculty Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM; Fri. 8:30 AM-2:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, Lions Clubs, state funds.

Staff: Ophthalmic assistant, ophthalmic technician, optometrist, optometry students.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells magnifiers, telescopes. Products for sale on site.

Early Intervention: Offers pediatric vision screening.

Health/Medical: Offers comprehensive eye examinations, co-management services with ophthalmology, and provides treatment of eye conditions.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services in metropolitan St. Louis area.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Offers low vision services for people who are elderly.

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SLSBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

8770 Manchester Road

St. Louis, MO 63144

Tel: (314) 968-9000

(314) 968-9003 (Fax)

www.slsbvi.org/

E-mail: info@slsbvi.org

David C. Ekin, President & CEO, dekin@slsbvi.org

Brenda Dunn, Client Services Coordinator,

bdunn@slsbvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the full array of vision rehabilitation services to assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired in remaining independent.

Established: 1911.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: St. Louis and the 50-mile radius around it.

Eligibility requirements: Functional vision loss interfering with activities of daily living.

Ages served: 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Endowments, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Budget: \$1,300,000.

Clients served annually: 1,500.

Staff: 22. All program staff are nationally certified or state-licensed in their areas of expertise.

Fee structure: Only for adaptive technology (sliding scale, minimal for Low Vision Clinic and Leisure Activities).

Publications: Newsletter, Annual Report, Quarterly Calendar of Activities).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides social and adaptive living assessments, braille assessments and other assessments for community services as needed. Evaluates for appropriate large-print/speech programs.

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision devices and adaptive ADL equipment. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consulting services to health care professionals, nursing facilities, and others.

Counseling: Offers individual adjustment counseling, older adult support group, young adult support group, and family education.

Education Services: Makes teachers of the visually impaired students and orientation and mobility instructors available for contractual services within 60-mile radius of St. Louis.

Health/Medical: Offers public education program for schools, health fairs, and health agencies. Provides eyeglasses/prostheses for medically indigent.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to community resources, state programs, and employment services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up through low vision clinic and home visits. Has loan program for magnifiers and CCTVs. Maintains and distributes over 200 different magnifiers in inventory.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internships to graduate students in orientation and mobility, social work, and art therapy. Offers low vision and in-service training to colleges, universities, schools, and hospitals.

Recreation: Offers weekly leisure groups, craft and ceramics classes. Provides in-home and on-site recreation services, such as trips to MUNY opera, symphonies, baseball games.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services. Provides training in independent living skills for individuals over age 60.

Support Groups: Offers a young adult and an older adult support group.

St. Louis University: Eye Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1755 South Grand
St. Louis, MO 63104
Tel: (314) 256-3220
(314) 771-0596 (Fax)
www.medschool.slu.edu/departments/eye/
E-mail: rennerj@slu.edu
Oscar Cruz, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral and current ophthalmological report required.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: Counselors, ophthalmologist, optometrist, optometry students, ophthalmology resident.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers clinical training for ophthalmology residents and optometry students.

Special School District: Saint Louis County

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Educational agency

12110 Clayton Road
Town and Country, MO 63131
Tel: (314) 989-8251
(314) 569-8186 (Fax)
www.ssd.k12.mo.us
E-mail: bdavidson@ssd.k12.mo.us
Betty J. Davidson, Area Coordinator, Vision Program,
Region III, (314) 989-8504 (Fax),
bdavidson@ssd.k12.mo.us
Shelly Smith, Itinerant Teacher, (314) 989-8342

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired students through education and related services.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: St. Louis County, Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Educational diagnosis of blindness or visual impairment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: Staff includes vision teachers certified in Missouri and AER-certified, O&M specialist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, supplementary academic.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provided for St. Louis County students.

Education Services: Provides certified vision teachers and orientation and mobility specialists to assist students who are blind or visually impaired.

Talking Tapes/Textbooks on Tape

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Library

16 Sunnen Drive, #162
St. Louis, MO 63143-3800
Tel: (877) 926-0500
(314) 646-0500
(314) 646-0555 (Fax)
www.talkingtapes.org
E-mail: info@talkingtapes.org
Diane J. Schuch, Executive Director,
schuch@talkingtapes.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To bring the world of books to those unable to access the printed word because of visual, physical, cognitive, or learning disabilities by providing books, primarily textbooks, to individuals, schools, and organizations serving those with disabilities.

Established: 1939.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Certifiable disability under ADA or IDEA.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Staff: 7 full-time, 3 part-time.

Fee structure: \$4 per tape to buy, \$2 per tape to rent.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats

(cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks and leisure reading, GED sample tests.

Library: Maintains a circulating library of 6,000 books on tape.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Washington University Eye Center: Low Vision Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

Center for Advanced Medicine

4921 Parkview Place

12th Floor, Suite 12C

St. Louis, MO 63110

Tel: (800) 543-2733

(314) 362-3937

(314) 362-3725 (Fax)

www.wuphysicians.org

Carrie S. Gaines, Director, Low Vision Services, (314)

362-5520, gaines@vision.wustl.edu

Amy Evans, Clinical Therapy Technician I,

Ophthalmology, (314) 653-5510, (314) 653-4375 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To evaluate and maximize useable vision by prescribing appropriate optical and nonoptical devices as well as by in-home evaluations, modifications, and training in the effective use of vision and devices.

Established: 1928.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Geographic area served: Missouri, Illinois.

Eligibility requirements: Current ophthalmic evaluation.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Tue. 8:30 AM-1:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Residential Facilities: Hotel arrangements can be made if needed.

Staff: Optometrist, ophthalmic technician, social worker, occupational therapist, physical therapist, psychologist, diabetic nurse specialist, audiologist, optician, ophthalmologist.

Fee structure: Insurance or self-pay.

Additional information: Ophthalmology residents assist with evaluations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers counseling/social work services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Offers occupational therapy services.

Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

P.O. Box 387

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0387

Tel: (800) 392-2614 (Toll-free in Missouri)

(573) 751-8720

(800) 347-1379 (TDD/TTY)

(573) 526-2985 (Fax)

www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner

E-mail: wolfner@sos.mo.gov

Richard J. Smith, Librarian, richard.smith@sos.mo.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library and information services to any Missouri resident unable to read standard print due to a physical disability.

County/District where located: Cole County.

Geographic area served: Missouri.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Montana

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Developmental Disabilities Program/Vocational Rehabilitation/Blind and Low Vision Services
(877) 296-1197

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Senior And Long Term Care Division
(800) 551-3191

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Developmental Disabilities Program/Vocational Rehabilitation/Blind and Low Vision Services
(877) 296-1197

Educational Services

Montana Office of Public Instruction
(800) 231-9393

Instructional Materials Center

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind
(406) 771-6000

Rehabilitation Services

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Developmental Disabilities Program/Vocational Rehabilitation/Blind and Low Vision Services
(877) 296-1197

School for the Blind

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind
(406) 771-6000

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Information/Referral Centers

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Developmental Disabilities Program/Vocational Rehabilitation/Blind and Low Vision Services
Parents, Let's Unite for Kids

Libraries

Montana Talking Book Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Developmental Disabilities

Program/Vocational Rehabilitation/Blind and Low Vision Services

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Montana Academy of Ophthalmology
Montana Optometric Association

Radio Reading Stations

Montana Radio Reading Services

Schools for the Blind

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

State Technology Programs

MonTECH Program

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Rocky Mountain Region Office (HKNC)

See Colorado.

Montana Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1007 Middlemas Road

Helena, MT 59602

Tel: (406) 449-2334

(406) 449-3359 (Fax)

www.mteyemds.org/

Gloria J. Hermanson, Executive Director,

hermansn@bresnan.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Montana.

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Developmental Disabilities Program/Vocational Rehabilitation/Blind and Low Vision Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State rehabilitation services

111 Sanders Street

Room 307

Helena, MT 59620

Tel: (877) 296-1197 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(406) 444-2590 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(406) 444-3632 (Fax)

www.dphhs.state.mt.us/dsd

Joe Matthews, Division Administrator

Beverly Berg, Program Administrator, BLVS and Team

Leader, Great Falls Regional Branch, (406) 444-4178,

bberg@state.mt.us

Vicki Lafonde-Smith, Early Intervention Specialist,

vlafond-smith@state.mt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote work and independence for Montanans with disabilities.

County/District where located: Lewis and Clark County.

Geographic area served: Montana.

Eligibility requirements: Vocational program: Have a visual impairment that creates impediments to employment or independent living. Older Blind Program: 55 years of age with visual disability. Visual Medical: Need financial assistance for medical treatment of eye condition.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 1000.

Staff: 18. Program Administrator and Assistant plus 4 teams, each with 4 team members (counselor, program assistant, rehabilitation teacher, and orientation and mobility specialist).

Fee structure: No fees charged.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides counseling, home visits and social work services.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Montana's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education act (IDEA).

Health/Medical: Offers medical services for diagnostic purposes, nursing, psychological, and vision services.

Information and Referral: Refers to other programs.

Parent Assistance: Offers family training and support.

Rehabilitation: Oversees provision of rehabilitation services and low vision services throughout the state. Has a counselor, rehabilitation teacher, orientation and mobility specialist, and program assistant in each of four areas covering the state. Provides independent living services for blind or low vision persons age 55 and older.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Billings: 2121 Rosesbud Drive, Suite C, Billings, MT 59102, Dan Gray

Butte: 700 Casey Street, Butte, MT 59701, Frank Gruss

Great Falls: Suite 2, 201 First Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405

Missoula: Suite 110, 1610 South 3rd West, Missoula, MT 59801, Del Addis

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Billings: 1211 Grand Avenue, Billings, MT 59101

Bozeman: 20 East Olive, Room 208A, Bozeman, MT 59715

Glasgow: 334 West Court, Glasgow, MT 59230

Helena: 3075 North Montana, Helena, MT 59620

Kalispell: P.O. Box 2357, Kalispell, MT 59903

Miles City: 708 Palmer, Miles City, MT 59301

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: Senior And Long Term Care Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

111 Sanders Street
Helena, MT 59604
Tel: (800) 551-3191 (Local Area Agency on Aging)
(406) 444-4077
(406) 444-7743 (Fax)
www.dphhs.state.mt.us/sltc
E-mail: kevermann@state.mt.us
Kelly Williams, Division Administrator,
kewilliams@state.mt.us
Robin Homan, State Ombudsman, SLTC,
rroman@state.mt.us
Charles Rehbein, Bureau Chief, Aging Services, Senior
and Long Term Care, crehbein@state.mt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To plan and coordinate the delivery of publicly funded long-term care and support services to elderly Montanans and those with physical and other disabilities.

County/District where located: Lewis and Clark County.

Geographic area served: Montana.

Eligibility requirements: Over 60 years of age, the spouse of someone over 60, or a person disabled and living with someone over 60.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Meets ADA requirements.

Publications: Guide to Home and Community Based Services, Legal Guide to Long Term Care Planning, Resident Rights in Nursing Homes.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Transportation Services to older persons.

In-Home Services: Coordinates in-home services for seniors.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and other local aging services. Maintains network of information referral and assistance workers. Assists elder Montanans with information and assistance regarding Medicare, Medicaid, and long-term care benefits.

Transportation: Coordinates transportation services for elder Montanans.

Montana Office of Public Instruction

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

P.O. Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
Tel: (800) 231-9393
(406) 444-3095
www.metnet.state.mt.us/
Robert Runkel, State Director of Special Education,
(406) 444-4429, brunkel@state.mt.us
Marilyn Pearson, Assistant Director of Special
Education, (406) 444-4428, mpearson@state.mt.us
Francisco J. Roman, Deaf-Blind Specialist, (406)
444-4426, froman@state.mt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Montana.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training and technical assistance to schools and teachers of visually impaired students.

Education Services: Monitors special education services provided by public schools and state-operated programs. Manages the flow of state and federal dollars for special education programs.

Montana Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

36 South Last Chance Gulch
Suite A
Helena, MT 59601
Tel: (406) 443-1160
(406) 443-4614 (Fax)
www.mteyes.com
Sue A. Weingartner, Executive Director,
suew@mteyes.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the profession of optometry for members and the public they serve.

County/District where located: Lewis and Clark County.

Geographic area served: Montana.

Montana Radio Reading Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

337 Stephens Avenue
Missoula, MT 59802-4511
Tel: (800) 942-7323 (In-state number only)
(406) 721-1998
(406) 721-1998 (Fax)

E-mail: radioreading@montana.com

Jan Bicha, Director

Evelyn Hawkins, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide equal access to the printed media, primarily newspapers, to persons who are visually or physically print impaired.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Missoula.

Geographic area served: Montana and Northern Wyoming.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, low vision or physically print impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (live satellite network for remainder of the day).

Accessibility: ADA Accessible.

Clients served annually: 700.

Staff: 1 full-time employee.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Semi-annual newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts 8 daily and 8 weekly Montana newspapers delivered via closed-circuit radio. Operates 24-hour service via the In Touch satellite network.

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- School for the blind

3911 Central Avenue

Great Falls, MT 59405

Tel: (406) 771-6000 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(406) 771-6164 (Fax)

www.sdb.state.mt.us

Steve Gettel, Superintendent, sgettel@sdb.state.mt.us

Staci Bechard, Librarian, (406) 771-6051,

sbechard@sdb.state.mt.us

Bill Davis, Principal, (406) 771-6038

Chris Gutschenritter, School Psychologist,

cgutschenritter@sdb.state.mt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind children ages 0 to 21.

Established: 1893.

County/District where located: Cascade County.

Geographic area served: Montana.

Eligibility requirements: Referrals required. Visual impairment that is educationally significant.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Accessibility: Accessible to children who are blind or visually impaired. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Cottages.

Fee structure: No charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Visual impairment assessment team available on request of parent/teacher. Provides braille and tactile aid services, assessment, and recommendations.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, diskette, large print). **Types of content:** Educational materials, including textbooks and other.

Computer Training: Speech output systems.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Resource consultants and itinerants provide consultation/technical assistance to public schools that offer educational services to blind or visually impaired students.

Counseling: Provides educational counseling for students who are blind or visually disabled. Parent support groups available.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services for at-risk children birth to age 3.

Education Services: Offers graded general academic (K through 12) and nongraded programs. Administers the federal quota system for providing visually impaired children with materials from the American Printing House for the Blind. Provides braille, large-type and recorded material to visually impaired students in local schools and maintains a repository of large-type textbooks. Also provides training in the use of computer aids and devices.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Parent support groups available.

Preschool: Preschool programs available for children who are blind or visually impaired.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork/placement in orientation and mobility.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in braille, use of tactile aids, orientation and mobility, and adaptations for test-taking.

Montana Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

1515 East Sixth Avenue

Helena, MT 59620-1800

Tel: (800) 332-3400

(406) 444-2064

(406) 444-3005 (TDD/TTY)

(406) 444-0266 (Fax)

www.msl.state.mt.us/tbl

Christie O. Briggs, Librarian, cbriggs@state.mt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Montana.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

MonTECH Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Rural Institute, University of Montana

634 Eddy Avenue

Missoula, MT 59812

Tel: (406) 243-5676 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(800) 732-0323 (TDD/TTY)

(406) 243-4730 (Fax)

www.montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu

E-mail: montech@selway.umt.edu

Gail McGregor, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide assistive technology resources and supports to people with disabilities in the state of Montana.

Established: 1991.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Operates Montana Technology Access Center (MTAC), a technology demonstration and evaluation center that features a variety of equipment available to consumers and professionals for demonstration and evaluation purposes and offers opportunities for informal hands-on experiences with technology, as well as a formal evaluations, which include a comprehensive report that can be used to assist in the procurement of recommended assistive technology devices or software.

Financial Assistance: The Assistive Technology Loan Program assists Montanans with disabilities in obtaining assistive technology equipment that supports independent functioning and participation in family, community, school, recreational and work activities.

Information and Referral: Provides free, confidential information about assistive technology devices and services for Montanans of all ages. Maintains a statewide database of available assistive technology devices.

Parents, Let's Unite for Kids (PLUK)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

516 North 32nd Street

Billings, MT 59101

Tel: (800) 222-7585

(406) 255-0540 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(406) 255-0523 (Fax)

www.pluk.org/

E-mail: plukinfo@pluk.org

Roger Holt, Technology Support, rholt@pluk.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To unite parents, professionals, families and friends of children with special needs to support one another, and share information for the benefit of their children.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Yellowstone County.

Geographic area served: Montana.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds, United Way, workshop sales.

Budget: \$500,000.

Clients served annually: 10,000.

Staff: 20.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Pluk News (newsletter); Monthly Update (newsletter); eNews (electronic newsletter);

www.pluk.org (web site).

SERVICES OFFERED

Parent Assistance: Provides consultation and support to parents.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center (VAPSHCS-American Lake BRC)

See Washington.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center

See California.

Nebraska

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Nebraska Commission for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(877) 809-2419

Nebraska Department of Health and Human
Services: Aging and Disability Services
(800) 942-7830

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Nebraska Department of Education: Special
Populations
(402) 471-2471

Nebraska Department of Health and Human
Services: Special Services for Children and
Adults
(402) 471-9329

Educational Services

Nebraska Department of Education: Special
Populations
(402) 471-2471

Instructional Materials Center

Nebraska Instructional Resource Center
(402) 873-5513

Rehabilitation Services

Nebraska Commission for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(877) 809-2419

School for the Blind

Nebraska Center for the Education of
Children Who Are Blind or Visually
Impaired
(800) 826-4355

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Prose & Cons Braille Unit

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Nebraska

Libraries

Nebraska Library Commission: Talking Book and
Braille Service (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

University of Nebraska Medical Center: Low Vision
Service

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Nebraska Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
Nebraska Optometric Association

National Publishers

Christian Record Services

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Nebraska-Lincoln: Department of Special
Education

Radio Reading Stations

Radio Talking Book Service

Schools for the Blind

Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who
Are Blind or Visually Impaired

State Technology Programs

Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership

Christian Record Services

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Great Plains Region Office (HKNC)

See Kansas.

Nebraska Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

233 South 13th Street
Suite 1512

Lincoln, NE 68508

Tel: (402) 474-4472

(402) 474-2198 (Fax)

Carrie Kunc, Executive Director, carriek@nebmed.org

Brian Curtis, Assistant Executive Vice President,
brian_nma@alltel.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as a professional membership organization for ophthalmologists.

County/District where located: Lancaster County.

Geographic area served: Nebraska.

Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

5143 South 48th Street
Suite C

Lincoln, NE 68516-2204

Tel: (888) 806-8287 (In state.)

(402) 471-0734 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(402) 471-6052 (Fax)

www.nde.state.ne.us/ATP

E-mail: atp@atp.state.ne.us

Mark Schultz, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable people with disabilities, their families, and professionals to learn about the latest innovations and identify funding for assistive devices and services.

Established: 1989.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Works with Easter Seals Nebraska and the First National Bank of Omaha to provide low or reduced interest loans to qualified Nebraskans with disabilities to purchase assistive technology devices or services.

Information and Referral: Provides information on adaptive devices and software as well as information on other resources for meeting accessibility standards.

Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

824 Tenth Avenue

Nebraska City, NE 68410

Tel: (800) 826-4355

(402) 873-5513

(402) 873-3463 (Fax)

www.ncecbvi.org

E-mail: sgiittin@esu4.org

Sally Giittinger, Administrator, sgiittin@esu4.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve blind and visually impaired students statewide through comprehensive, individualized instruction; to seek assurance of the optimum potential of each student; to link leadership, expertise, and innovative technology; to provide quality educational, outreach, and residential services; and to coordinate resources for students, families, school districts, and educational service units.

Established: 1875.

County/District where located: Otoe County.

Geographic area served: Nebraska; will accept out-of-state contracts.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: During school term.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Maintains a statewide depository of specialized materials for blind and visually impaired students in Nebraska.

Assessment: Conducts screenings and evaluations, birth through 21 years.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers assessments and consultations through Nebraska Instructional Resource Center.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers technical assistance upon request from school districts.

Counseling: Has school psychologist on staff.

Early Intervention: Provides consultation and assessment services.

Education Services: Offers general academic (grades K through 12), college preparatory, and vocational/functional skills programs.

Employment: Provides job training opportunities for students.

Library: Maintains student and professional library.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Sponsors Parents Always Learning program.

Preschool: Operates a preschool during summer months for assessment and parent training.

Professional Training: Serves as training site for University of Nebraska-Lincoln pre-service and in-service vision teacher program. Statewide staff development offerings.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, hobby groups, bowling, track, speech, music activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening skills, home management, orientation and mobility.

Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

4600 Valley Road

Suite 100

Lincoln, NE 68510-4844

Tel: (877) 809-2419

(402) 471-2891 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(402) 471-2891 (TDD/TTY)

(402) 471-3009 (Fax)

www.ncbvi.state.ne.us/

Pearl Van Zandt, Executive Director,

pvanz@ncbvi.state.ne.us

Bob Deaton, Deputy Director, Independent Living

Program, (402) 471-8105, deaton@nsvi.state.ne.us

Floyd Fatos, Director, Orientation Center, Lincoln, (402)

471-8120, ffloyd@ncbvi.state.ne.us

Carlos Servan, Deputy Director, Vocational

Rehabilitation Program, cservan@ncbvi.state.ne.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide training and counseling to assist blind and visually impaired persons in overcoming the difficulties of vision loss, to obtain employment, and to become full participants in life.

Established: 2000.

Geographic area served: Nebraska.

Eligibility requirements: Sight loss that limits participation in the ordinary vocations and activities of life.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Apartment living for orientation and adjustment center students.

Budget: \$4,000,000.

Clients served annually: 1600.

Staff: 51.5.

Fee structure: No fees. Some adaptive tools available for sale at cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Offers vocational rehabilitation assessment for interests, skills, capabilities for employment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers individual/family counseling, consultation with schools and families of blind children, referral services.

Employment: Provides technical assistance to clients in job search or job retention. Offers vocational counseling/career development, pre-vocational training, contracts for vocational training, placement and follow-up services, small business assistance, vending program assistance.

Financial Assistance: Provides assistance with tuition, books, and other school supplies; job placement; other costs related to achieving employment.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Reading Services: NFB Newsline for the Blind; Radio Talking Book.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in braille and training in independent travel, homemaking skills, home teaching program, center training program, counseling/education on understanding of blindness, social attitudes. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

Support Groups: Offers peer support groups for seniors.

LOCAL OFFICES

Kearney: 906 East 25th Street, Kearney, NE 68847-4603, Deanna Jesse, Rehabilitation Counselor

Norfolk: 214 North Seventh Street, Suite 11, Norfolk, NE 68701-4083, John Schmitt, Rehabilitation Counselor

North Platte: North Platte State Office Building, 200 South Silber, North Platte, NE 69101-4298, Candace Laursen, District Supervisor

Omaha: 1313 Farnam On the Mall, Omaha, NE 68102, Nancy Flearl, District Supervisor

Scottsbluff: 4500 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE 69361, Dan Hill, Rehabilitation Counselor

Nebraska Department of Education: Special Populations

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency
- State educational services

301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
Tel: (402) 471-2471
(402) 471-2295 (TDD/TTY)
(402) 471-5022 (Fax)
www.nde.state.ne.us

Gary Sherman, Director of Special Populations,
gsherman@nde.state.ne.us
Joan Luebbers, Part C Co-coordinator,
luebbers@nde.state.ne.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide consultative services for the establishment and operation of educational programs for children with visual impairments.

County/District where located: Lancaster County.

Geographic area served: Nebraska.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Co-lead agency for the early intervention program. Provides special education services through local school districts for eligible children from birth or date of diagnosis.

Education Services: Consults with educators serving students with visual impairments, to assist with program planning, instructional and material modifications, and accessing resources. Provides in-home and center-based assistance to meet needs of students with visual impairments in all developmental areas.

Professional Training: Offers staff development programs for regular and special educators.

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services: Aging and Disability Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State unit on aging

Nebraska State Office Building
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68508
Tel: (800) 942-7830 (In Nebraska only)
(402) 471-4623
(402) 471-4619 (Fax)
www.hhs.state.ne.us/ags/agsindex.htm

Joann Weis, Director, joann.weis@hhs.state.ne.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Nebraska.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services: Special Services for Children and Adults

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency

301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509
Tel: (402) 471-9329
(402) 471-6352 (Fax)
www.hhs.state.ne.us/dip/dipindex.htm

E-mail: hhs_system_information@hhs.ne.gov

Mary Jo Iwan, Administrator, maryjo.iwan@hhs.ne.gov
Charlotte Lewis, Program Coordinator,
charlie.lewis@hhs.ne.gov

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Co-lead agency for Nebraska's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Nebraska Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)

NCECBVI
824 Tenth Avenue
Nebraska City, NE 68410
Tel: (402) 873-5513
www.ncecbvi.org/nirc.html

Karen Duffy, Director, kduffy@esu4.org

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Nebraska.

Nebraska Library Commission: Talking Book and Braille Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

The Atrium
1200 N Street
Suite 120
Lincoln, NE 68508-2023
Tel: (800) 742-7691 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(402) 471-4038 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(402) 471-6244 (Fax)
www.nlc.state.ne.us/tbbs/tbbs1.html

E-mail: talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us

David Oertli, Librarian, doertli@neon.nlc.state.ne.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide talking books and braille books to Nebraskans who cannot use regular print because of visual or other physical limitations.

Established: 1952.

Geographic area served: Nebraska.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: Interchange (newsletter).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides books and magazines on audiocassette, audiocassette players, braille, and home entertainment movies featuring audio description for persons who are blind, visually impaired or physically disabled.

Nebraska Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

201 North 8th Street, Suite 400

Lincoln, NE 68501

Tel: (402) 474-7716

(402) 476-6547 (Fax)

www.noaonline.org

E-mail: noa@assocoffice.net

David S. McBride, Executive Director

Prevent Blindness Nebraska

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

7101 Newport Avenue

Suite 308

Omaha, NE 68152-2172

Tel: (402) 572-3520

(402) 572-3522 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org/ne/

E-mail: preventblindnessnebraska@mb3.net

Kim Shillito, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Geographic area served: Nebraska.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health and eye safety.

Library: Maintains a full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

Prose & Cons Braille Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

800 Pioneers Boulevard

Lincoln, NE 68502

Tel: (402) 471-3161

(402) 471-3472 (Fax)

Andy Avila, Cornhusker State Industries

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Lancaster County.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-3:30 PM.

Funded by: Client fees.

Fee structure: Per-page charge for braille and large print.

Publications: Catalog of library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, tests (mathematics, science, computer, others).

Radio Talking Book Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

7101 Newport Avenue

Suite 205

Omaha, NE 68152

Tel: (800) 729-7826

(402) 572-3003

(402) 572-3002 (Fax)

www.rtbs.org/

E-mail: rtbsinfo@rtbs.org

John C. Fullerton, Executive Director,

fullertonj@rtbs.org

Richard Zlab, Station Manager, rtbsinfo@rtbs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information and cultural opportunities to individuals who have visual or physical disabilities which prevent them from reading printed material or from enjoying community events and activities.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Douglas County.

Geographic area served: All of Nebraska and border areas of neighboring states.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon-Fri. 5:00 AM-Midnight; Sat.-Sun. 6:00 AM-6:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 2 full-time, 7 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Offers live audiodescriptions of theater and other performances.

Education Services: RTBS Listening Link provides taped educational and training materials to print-impaired students at area colleges and universities.

Reading Services: Broadcasts programs that include material from regional newspapers (Omaha World Herald, Lincoln Journal Star), grocery and department store advertisements, financial news, health updates, sports, consumer information, short stories, mysteries, and nostalgia radio. Radio receivers are loaned free of charge to eligible listeners.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln: Department of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Postsecondary institution**

318 Barkley Center, Special Education Dept.

Vision Impairments Program

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Lincoln, NE 68583-0732

Tel: (402) 472-2149

(402) 472-7697 (Fax)

www.unl.edu/barkley/index.shtml

E-mail: [sstokes2@unl.edu](mailto:ssstokes2@unl.edu)

Ellin Siegel, Associate Professor of Special Education;

Director, Visual Impairments Program, (402)

472-9867, (402) 472-9867 (Fax), esiegel1@unl.edu

Susan Stokes, Vision Impairments Coordinator, (402)

472-4194, [sstokes2@unl.edu](mailto:ssstokes2@unl.edu)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide graduate certification and masters program in Visual Impairments. Students enter as a cadre every other year and proceed through a sequence of distance education and summer on-site courses.

Financial support for students is available, contingent on grant funding.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Lancaster County.

Geographic area served: Midwest region primarily.

Eligibility requirements: University graduate school and departmental requirements must be met to be admitted.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Fee structure: Registration fees apply. Tuition and student fees required for coursework. Grant funding may be applied to tuition, pending funding.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Graduate program leading to teaching degree. A masters degree can also be earned. Students are admitted every other year (2005, 2007, etc.) and proceed through a sequence of classes. During Fall and Spring semesters, classes are on the web. Summer classes are a combination of web-based and on-site in Nebraska. Admitted students take one class per semester and 2-3 classes in the summer for a 2 1/2 year sequence. Additional electives and student teaching are arranged individually.

University of Nebraska Medical Center: Low Vision Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

3925 Dewey Avenue

Omaha, NE 68198

Tel: (402) 559-4170

(402) 559-5514 (Fax)

www.unmc.edu/eye

E-mail: kvondoll@unmc.edu

Frank E. Graf, Director

Pat Jones, Assistant Coordinator, Low Vision Services,
(402) 559-2463, pajones@unmc.edu

Kathy Von Dollen, Coordinator, kvondoll@unmc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision rehabilitation services to the partially sighted.

County/District where located: Douglas County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, R.N. low vision specialist, optometrist, opticians.

Fee structure: Covered by most insurance. Financial assistance available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Provides training for ophthalmology residents, occupational therapist students, as well as eye care professionals and staff.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Nevada

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Nevada Bureau of Services to the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(800) 607-6564

Nevada Department of Human Resources:
Division for Aging Services
(800) 243-3638

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

NV Department of Human Resources: Early
Intervention Services
(800) 522-0066

Educational Services

Nevada Department of Education: Office of
Special Education, Elementary and
Secondary Education, and School
Improvement Programs
(775) 687-9171

Rehabilitation Services

Nevada Bureau of Services to the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(800) 607-6564

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Information/Referral Centers

Blind Center of Nevada
Blindconnect, Inc.

Libraries

Nevada Talking Book Services (NLS)
Subregional Library for the Blind and Handicapped
(NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Blind Center of Nevada

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Blindconnect, Inc.

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Nevada Optometric Association

Radio Reading Stations

KNPR Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Blind Center of Nevada

State Technology Programs

Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative

Blind Center of Nevada

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

1001 North Bruce Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Tel: (702) 642-6000
(702) 649-6739 (Fax)

www.blindcenter.org

E-mail: info@blindcenter.org

Veronica Wilson, President/CEO,

ronnie@blindcenter.org

Paula Fike, Program Coordinator,

paulaf@blindcenter.org

Bob Waldorf, VP, Operations, bobw@blindcenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired persons
of all ages in reaching their highest physical, social,

intellectual, and economic potential, through personal development, social interaction and meaningful employment.

Established: 1955.

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: Las Vegas, N. Las Vegas, Henderson.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or blind.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 200+.

Staff: 5.

Fee structure: All services free.

Publications: Monthly newsletter.

Additional information: Day Center setting offered to enhance the lives of people who face similar daily joys and struggles relating to living with vision loss.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes aids and appliances. Products for blind and visual impairment are for sale on site and can be ordered by phone.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational workshop and adjustment training.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in independent living skills, recreation, children's program, work activities program.

Blindconnect, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Consumer membership organization**

■ **Information/referral center**

6375 West Charleston Boulevard-WCL200

Las Vegas, NV 89146

Tel: (702) 631-9009

(702) 646-3412 (Fax)

www.blindconnect.org/

E-mail: lander718@aol.com

Jean Peyton, President

Martha Balecki, Treasurer

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To connect blind people to other blind persons, to available services and resources, and to the community at large. The organization strives to educate the public about blindness, to advocate for increased services and inclusion, and to encourage community support.

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: Nevada with an emphasis on Clark County in southern Nevada.

Eligibility requirements: Blind and visually impaired and anyone interested in eye diseases.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: By appointment.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, government grants, Lions Clubs, public funds, state funds, United Way.

Staff: Run by volunteers.

Fee structure: \$10 membership fee. Free for information and referral and peer support.

Publications: Ex-Sighted! (quarterly newsletter); regular updates on topics of interest to people who are blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Counseling, Information and Referral to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Collaborates with the Division for Aging, senior programs offered by local government entities, and care facilities to provide information about blindness. Refers persons to available services. Participates in health, neighborhood, and senior fairs.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides referrals to adaptive program providers and connects consumers with trainers who can provide training in the client's home or at the Blindconnect office. Also refers to local computer companies familiar with adaptive equipment.

Counseling: Offers monthly peer counseling and one-on-one counseling over the phone. Offers Older Blind Counseling Program for seniors struggling with adjustment to vision loss.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to blind adults, their families, and their employers. Serves as a resource in the community for those seeking information about blindness and reasonable accommodations.

Parent Assistance: Refers callers to parents of blind children who are willing to work directly with other parents to provide support and resource referral.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southwest Region Office (HKNC)

See California.

KNPR Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1289 South Torrey Pines Avenue

Las Vegas, NV 89146

Tel: (866) 895-5677

(702) 258-9895

(702) 258-5646 (Fax)

www.knpr.org

Lamar Marchese, General Manager, lamar@knpr.org

Jay Bartos, Radio Reading Service Manager,

jayb@knpr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: All of Nevada.

Eligibility requirements: Must be blind or visually impaired or otherwise unable to read standard printed material.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Clients served annually: 1,000.

Staff: One paid staff member supervises 55 volunteers.

Fee structure: Free service, with donations requested.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, grocery ads, books of local and national interest. Publications include Las Vegas Review Journal, Las Vegas Sun, New York Times, Wall Street Journal.

Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Department of Human Resources

Office of Disability Service

3656 Research Way, Suite 32

Carson City, NV 89706

Tel: (775) 687-4452

(775) 687-3388 (TDD/TTY)

(775) 687-3292 (Fax)

www.hr.state.nv.us/directors/disabilitysvcs/dhr_ods.htm

Kelleen Preston, Project Administrator,

kpreston@hdr.state.nv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Provides individual and/or group legal advocacy related to acquisition of assistive technology needed by students with disabilities.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training/consultation in Americans with Disabilities Act.

Nevada Bureau of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired (BSBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

505 East King Street

Room 501

Carson City, NV 89701

Tel: (800) 607-6564

(775) 684-4244

(775) 684-0360 (TDD/TTY)

(775) 684-4186 (Fax)

www.nvdetr.org/rehab/reh_bvi.htm

E-mail: detrvr@nvdetr.org

Cecilia Colling, Bureau Chief, (775) 684-4070,
cgcolling@nvdetr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Nevada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance in the use of assistive technology.

Counseling: Offers vocational evaluations, psychological testing, counseling, and guidance.

Employment: Offers vocational and pre-vocational training, Business Enterprise Program (food service businesses).

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up and training in the use of low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in orientation and mobility, braille, and the use of low vision aids.

Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and over.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Elko: 172 Sixth Street, Elko, NV 89801

Las Vegas: 628 Belrose Street, Las Vegas, NV 89107

Reno: 1325 Corporate Boulevard, Reno, NV 89502, Bill Boster, Rehabilitation Supervisor

LOCAL OFFICES

Carson City: 1933 North Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Nevada Department of Education: Office of Special Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, and School Improvement Programs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

700 East Fifth Street, #113

Carson City, NV 89701

Tel: (775) 687-9171

(775) 687-9123 (Fax)

www.nsn.k12.nv.us/nvdoe/

Frankie McCabe, Director, fmccabe@doe.nv.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide training and technical assistance to school districts, other agencies, parents and other groups to support schools in meeting the needs of diverse learners, including students who are disabled or disadvantaged.

Geographic area served: Nevada.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible, with braille signage.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Advises and supports school districts and related agencies.

Education Services: Provides training to school districts and other agencies.

Parent Assistance: Offers training and technical assistance to parents.

Nevada Department of Human Resources: Division for Aging Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

3100 West Sahara Avenue

Suite 103

Las Vegas, NV 89102

Tel: (800) 243-3638 (Available in Nevada only)

(702) 486-3545

(702) 486-3572 (Fax)

www.aging.state.nv.us/

E-mail: dasvegas@aging.state.nv.us

Carol Sala, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop, coordinate and deliver a comprehensive support service system in order for Nevada's senior citizens to lead independent, meaningful and dignified lives.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Nevada Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

9101 West Sahara Avenue

Suite 105

Las Vegas, NV 89117

Tel: (702) 220-7444

(702) 248-7445 (Fax)

www.nevadaoptometric.org

E-mail: noalv@aol.com

Alyssa Harvey, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Clark County.

Nevada Talking Book Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

100 North Stewart Street

Carson City, NV 89701-4285

Tel: (800) 922-9334 (In Nevada only)

(775) 684-3354

(775) 687-8338 (TDD/TTY)

(775) 684-3311 (Fax)

www.dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/NSLA/tbooks/

Keri E. Putnam, Regional Librarian,

keputnam@clan.lib.nv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Carson County.

Geographic area served: Nevada.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Government grants, private donations, state funds.

Publications: Silver Lining.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers literacy programs.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

NV Department of Human Resources: Early Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Part C early intervention agency**

3427 Goni Road

Suite 108

Carson City, NV 89706

Tel: (800) 522-0066 (This toll-free number is for Project ASSIST, Nevada's Central Directory, which is supported by the Nevada Departments of Education and Human Resources.)

(775) 684-3460

(775) 684-3486 (Fax)

www.health2k.state.nv.us/BEIS/

Wendy Whipple, State Part C Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the child's growth and development and support families during the critical early years through a system of coordinated services. Early intervention services to eligible children and families are federally mandated through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Geographic area served: Nevada.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Fee structure: Early intervention services are provided at no cost to the family.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Nevada's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Information and Referral: Contracts and refers with professionals specializing in visual impairments.

Through Project Assist, maintains a computer database

of Nevada and national organizations that serve children and young adults with disabilities, their families and their service providers. Provides information on parent support groups; screening, diagnosis and assessment; early intervention programs for infants and toddlers; preschool special education services.

Subregional Library for the Blind and Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

80 N. Pecos Road, Suite H

Henderson, NV 89074

Tel: (800) 922-9334 (Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, in Carson City, NV, for machine lending and braille services in Nevada) (702) 733-1925

(702) 263-9541 (Fax)

www.NevadaCulture.org

Rebecca Snetselaar, Library Supervisor,

rasnetse@clan.lib.nv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, and Nye Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.; Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: Library supervisor and library assistant.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center

See California.

New Hampshire

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

New Hampshire Department of Education:
Services for Blind and Visually Impaired
(800) 581-6881

New Hampshire Department of Health and
Human Services: Division of Elderly and
Adult Services
(800) 351-1888

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

New Hampshire Department of Health and
Human Services: Bureau of Developmental
Services, Family Centered Early Support
and Services Program
(800) 852-3345

Educational Services

New Hampshire Department of Education:
Bureau of Special Education
(800) 735-2964

Rehabilitation Services

New Hampshire Department of Education:
Services for Blind and Visually Impaired
(800) 581-6881

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Educational Agencies

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New Hampshire Association for the Blind: McGreal
Sight Center
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Libraries

Library Services to Persons with Disabilities, New
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National Organization for Albinism and
Hypopigmentation

National Publishers

BBC Audiobooks America

Rehabilitation Agencies

Camp Allen
New Hampshire Association for the Blind: McGreal
Sight Center

State Technology Programs

New Hampshire Technology Partnership Projects

BBC Audiobooks America

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Camp Allen

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

56 Camp Allen Road
Bedford, NH 03110-6606
Tel: (603) 622-8471
(603) 626-4295 (Fax)
www.campallennh.org

Mary C. Constance, Executive Director,
mary@campallennh.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a quality outdoor recreation program for individuals with developmental and physical disabilities.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Hillsborough County.

Eligibility requirements: Must have a permanent physical and/or developmental disability and must not be a danger to self or others.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (winter), May-Oct. 24 hours.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Cabins and dorms.

Fee structure: 6 days \$500, 12 days \$875.

Publications: Brochure, biannual newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Runs a special needs summer camp.

**Library Services to Persons with Disabilities,
New Hampshire State Library**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

117 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
Tel: (800) 491-4200
(603) 271-3429
(603) 271-8370 (Fax)
www.state.nh.us/nhsl/talkbks

Pamela L. Ober, Acting Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1970.

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 2300.

Staff: 5.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter in large print, cassette, and on the Internet.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes and descriptive videos to blind and physically handicapped persons.

**Multi-Sensory Intervention Through
Consultation and Education (MICE)**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Infant/preschool agency**

151A Manchester Street
Concord, NH 03303
Tel: (603) 228-1028
(603) 228-5755 (TDD/TTY)
(603) 228-3400 (Fax)
E-mail: miceprogram@juno.com
Janet Halley, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational and developmental services to sensory impaired infants, birth to age 3. To identify those at risk for or diagnosed with a sensory impairment. To provide interventions, to promote the highest degree of functional sensory efficiency possible within the context of the child's overall development and family functioning.

Established: 1973.

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

Eligibility requirements: Eligibility determined through the early intervention system.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility to first floor (basement).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses child's current skill level and the impact of the visual impairment on development and learning.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Technical assistance provided to early intervention staff.

Early Intervention: Services provided at home or in day care, always within the child's natural environment.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to social service agencies (Medicaid and others) as appropriate.

Parent Assistance: Provides opportunities for families to attend in-service training, encourages parent-to-parent reciprocity, provides support to parent group organizations.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training for professionals and families.

National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation (NOAH)

See U.S. National Organizations.

New Hampshire Association for the Blind: McGreal Sight Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

25 Walker Street

Concord, NH 03301

Tel: (800) 464-3075 (Toll Free number is available from any phone in New Hampshire.)

(603) 224-4039

(603) 224-4378 (Fax)

www.sightcenter.com

E-mail: gwoodland@sightcenter.com

George F. Theriault, President and CEO,

Administration, (603) 228-6046 (Fax),

gtheriault@sightcenter.com

Kathleen Carroll, Vice President for Development and

Planned Giving, kcarroll@sightcenter.com

Ross Doerr, Technology Consultant,

rdoerr@sightcenter.com

Nancy Druke, Director of Social Work Program,

ndruke@sightcenter.com

Jean Jaworski, Executive Administrator, Special

Projects Coordinator, jjaworski@sightcenter.com

Terry Muzzey, Vice President for Finance and

Administration, tmuzzey@sightcenter.com

Guy Woodland, Vice President, Rehabilitation and

Education, gwoodland@sightcenter.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the independence of persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1912.

County/District where located: Merrimack County.

Geographic area served: All communities in the state of New Hampshire.

Eligibility requirements: State residence with vision loss that affects daily living.

Ages served: 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$1,600,000.

Clients served annually: 1,800.

Staff: 25. Professional client services staff include clinical social worker, caseworker, low vision therapists, rehabilitation teachers, rehabilitation

teaching assistants, O&M trainers, technology consultant, volunteer administrator, teacher of visually impaired.

Fee structure: Clients are not charged a fee due to more than 70% inability to pay. Those with ability frequently provide charitable support.

Publications: Newsletters and Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Community Outreach Programs, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Maintains a technical aids store (low-tech), maintains an inventory of assistive aids (high tech) for demonstration, assessment and training.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille literacy program. Provides braille, large print, audio on tape, digital files and CD to individuals and organizations.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides community-based rehabilitative services statewide; includes all core services.

Counseling: Provides intake and referral, individual and group counseling, peer support groups.

Education Services: The Education Services Program was successfully launched in 2003. Provides TVI services on contract with NH schools, provides O&M specialist, technology, and information and referral.

Information and Referral: Provides consultation on specialized rehabilitation services, promotes public education and prevention of blindness within New Hampshire. Provides referrals to all available networks of service providers.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Services provided at McGreal Sight Center and community-based clinics.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills, communication skills. Offers preventive rehabilitation for those at risk for blindness.

Support Groups: Offers peer support groups.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Portsmouth: 127 Parrott Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801, dcaruso@sightcenter.com

New Hampshire Department of Education: Bureau of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State educational services

101 Pleasant Street

Concord, NH 03301-3860

Tel: (800) 735-2964 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(603) 271-3494

(603) 271-1953 (Fax)

www.ed.state.nh.us

E-mail: lloving@ed.state.nh.us

Mary J. Ford, Administrator, mford@ed.state.nh.us

Ruth Littlefield, Early Childhood Consultant,
rlittlefield@ed.state.nh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Merrimack County.

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers federal program for providing visually handicapped children in local schools with materials from American Printing House for the Blind.

Information and Referral: Provides information about local facilities.

New Hampshire Department of Education: Services for Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

21 South Fruit Street

Walker Building

Suite 20

Concord, NH 03301

Tel: (800) 581-6881 (In-state only)

(603) 271-3537

(800) 735-2964 (TDD/TTY)

(603) 271-3816 (Fax)

www.ed.state.nh.us/VR/Prog&Svcs/Blind/blind1.html

William A. Finn, Administrator, Services for Blind and Visually Impaired, bfinn@ed.state.nh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer the federal-state Vocational Rehabilitation program, The Randolph Sheppard program and other programs under the Rehabilitation Act and NH state statutes as designated.

County/District where located: Merrimack County.

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

Eligibility requirements: Vocational Rehabilitation criteria, or Older Blind program criteria.

Ages served: 14 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Meets ADA guidelines.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers consultation and referral, psychological testing.

Employment: Offers evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending facility program, post-employment programs.

Library: Maintains library of talking book records and cassettes and provides reader services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, home mechanics, home economics, and communications skills. Oversees New Hampshire's Title VIIC program (Older Blind Independent Living).

LOCAL OFFICES

Concord: Two Industrial Park Drive, Concord, NH 02301

Lebanon: 85 Mechanic Street, Suite 260A, Lebanon, NH 03766

Manchester: 195 McGregor Street, Manchester, NH 03102

Nashua: 25 Riverside Street, Suite 102, Nashua, NH 03062

Portsmouth: 30 Maplewood Avenue, Suite 201, Portsmouth, NH 03801

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services: Bureau of Developmental Services, Family Centered Early Support and Services Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency

105 Pleasant Street

Hospital Administration Building

Concord, NH 03301

Tel: (800) 852-3345 (New Hampshire only)

(603) 271-5034

(800) 735-2964 (TDD/TTY)

(603) 271-5166 (Fax)

www.dhhs.nh.gov/DHHS/DDEARLYSUPPORT/default.htm

Carolyn Stiles, Director, Early Support and Services Program, cstiles@dhhs.state.nh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or conditions that could lead to delays.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for New Hampshire's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services: Division of Elderly and Adult Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

129 Pleasant Street
State Office Park South
Annex Building #1
Concord, NH 03301-3852
Tel: (800) 351-1888 (New Hampshire only)
(603) 271-4680
(800) 735-2964 (TDD/TTY)
(603) 271-4643 (Fax)
www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/DEAS/default.htm
Catherine Keane, Director, ckeane@dhhs.state.nh.us
Jo Moncher, Bureau Chief,
JAMoncher@dhhs.state.nh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

New Hampshire Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

466 Washington Street
Rye, NH 03870
Tel: (603) 964-2885
(603) 964-2886 (Fax)
www.nheyedoctors.org/
E-mail: optometrist@comcast.net
Guy Lessard, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To maximize the opportunity for the optometric profession to meet the vision and eye health needs of the people served.

New Hampshire Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

7 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301-4018
Tel: (603) 224-1909
(603) 226-2432 (Fax)
E-mail: nhmsjhm@aol.com

Janet H. Monahan, Executive Director,
nhmsjhm@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Merrimack County.

Geographic area served: New Hampshire.

New Hampshire Technology Partnership Projects

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Institute on Disability/UCEDD
The Concord Center
Ten Ferry Street, #14
Concord, NH 03301-5019
Tel: (800) 328-2048 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state)
(603) 224-0630 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(603) 228-3270 (Fax)
www.iod.unh.edu/projects/technology_policy.html
Jan Nesbit, Project Director
Sonke Dornblut, Project Coordinator,
sonke.dornblut@unh.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1991.

NH Vision/Hearing Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

■ Information/referral center

117 Pleasant Street, Dolloff Building
Dolloff Building
Concord, NH 03301
Tel: (603) 226-2900
(603) 226-2900 (TDD/TTY)
(603) 226-2907 (Fax)
www.nhassistivetechology.org
E-mail: cweir@nhaat.mv.com
Carrie Hoeckele, Media Specialist,
clafoe@nhaat.mv.com
Cate Weir, Project Coordinator, cweir@nhaat.mv.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational support services to New Hampshire special education students with vision and/or hearing impairments ages 3-21, their educational teams and families.

Established: 2004.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, ages 3-21, receiving special educational services through the NH Department of Education.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Clients served annually: 650.

Staff: 10. Teachers of the Deaf, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Instructional Materials Center director, project coordinator, administrative assistants.

Fee structure: Several services available at no cost to school districts; some additional consultation and equipment loan services available for a fee.

Publications: Workshop fliers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Instructional Materials Center (IMC) loans an assortment of assistive technologies to schools including FM amplification systems, low vision aids, braille equipment, braille and large print textbooks and other print materials. Also facilitates the acquisition by school districts of braille and large-print books for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults and provides technical assistance to schools, educational agencies on low incidence, low vision, orientation and mobility and other issues of concern to professionals involved in special education of visually impaired students, ages 3-21.

Education Services: Provides assistive services to schools for education, technology, and training in various categories of special education, including

public education of students who are blind or visually impaired. Outsources to provide alternate format educational materials for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Information and Referral: Provides information about agency's assistive services in education, technology and training. Also refers to community resources.

Library: Provides braille and large-print materials, tactile maps, braille/large print/talking calculators for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers in-service workshops for professionals addressing issues relating to education of students ages 3-21 who are blind or visually impaired.

Recreation: Works closely in tandem with other agencies to coordinate trips and special recreational events geared to blind, visually impaired or other categories of special education students.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

New Jersey

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

New Jersey Commission for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(973) 648-2324

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior
Services: Aging and Community Services
(800) 792-8820

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior
Services: Division of Family Health Services
(609) 777-7734

Educational Services

New Jersey Department of Education: Office
of Special Education Programs
(609) 292-4469

Instructional Materials Center

George Meyer Instructional Resource Center
(973) 648-2547

Rehabilitation Services

New Jersey Commission for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(973) 648-2324

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Princeton Brailists
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: New Jersey Unit
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
TFB Publications

Dog Guide Schools

The Seeing Eye

Educational Agencies

LIFT

Information/Referral Centers

National Institute for Rehabilitation Engineering
Prevent Blindness New Jersey

Libraries

New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped
(NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Camden Eye Center: Lions Low Vision Clinic

Membership Organizations (Professional)

New Jersey Academy of Ophthalmology
New Jersey Society of Optometric Physicians

National Organizations

New Eyes for the Needy
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

National Publishers

Transaction Large Print

Radio Reading Stations

Electronic Information and Education Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Bestwork Industries for the Blind
New Jersey Foundation for the Blind

Residential Facilities

St. Joseph's Home for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

St. Joseph's School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Bergen Family Center

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark:
Program for the Visually Impaired

State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology Advocacy Center

Assistive Technology Advocacy Center**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **State technology program**

New Jersey Protection and Advocacy, Inc.
210 South Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608
Tel: (800) 922-7233 (In state.)
(609) 292-9742
(609) 633-7106 (TDD/TTY)
(609) 777-0187 (Fax)
www.njpanda.org
E-mail: advoca@njpanda.org
Ellen Cantanese, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals in overcoming barriers in the system and making assistive technology more accessible to individuals with disabilities throughout the state.

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Provides advocacy services and legal representation for individuals with disabilities who are denied access to assistive technology devices and/or assistive technology services.

Assistive Products: Provides an alternative source for assistive technology devices and acts as a clearinghouse for items that are for sale (usually at a minimal cost) or offered for donation or loan.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers educational programs describing the benefits of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, and suggesting strategies for obtaining assistive technology. These educational programs are offered to consumer groups, professional organizations, agencies, employers, and any other group interested.

Information and Referral: Provides information on the types of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, where to obtain them, and how much they cost.

Bergen Family Center**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Social service organization**

44 Armory Street
Englewood, NJ 07631
Tel: (201) 568-0817
(201) 568-0913 (Fax)
www.bergenfamilycenter.org
E-mail: adc@bergenfamilycenter.org
Susan Linder, Director, Eldercare Services
Esther Candelario, Recreation Coordinator, Social Worker, adc@bergenfamilycenter.org
Diane Smith, Nutrition Coordinator, Recreation Supervisor, adc@bergenfamilycenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help families through counseling and services.

Established: 1898.

County/District where located: Bergen County.

Geographic area served: All of Bergen County.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 60 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-2:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to people who are handicapped. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 100.

Staff: 7+ volunteers. Highly trained social work and recreation staff provides social day care and care management services.

Fee structure: SSBG Grant, JACC, Private Pay.

Additional information: Bergen Family Center's Shining Lights program is part of the Social Adult Day Care. The Shining Lights meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Participants are people who are visually impaired, ambulatory, and independent.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Information and Referral, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation. Individual, family and group therapy available at agency.

Information and Referral: Refers to various community resources for people who are blind or visually impaired. Provides general information.

Recreation: Offers Social Adult Day Care. Activities include exercise, games, arts and crafts, dance, breakfast, lunch and snack.

Rehabilitation: Refers for rehabilitation services. Offers Care Management services through Bergen NJ EASE for clients 60 years and older.

Bestwork Industries for the Blind (BIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

801 East Clements Bridge Road
Runnemede, NJ 08078

Tel: (800) 370-9560

(856) 939-5220

(856) 939-5022 (Fax)

www.bestworkindustries.org

E-mail: bestwork@eticomm.net

Belinda S. Moore, President/CEO,
bmoore@eticomm.net

Linda Parker, Administrative Assistant,
lparker@eticomm.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for individuals who are blind or visually impaired by providing training and employment in a supportive work setting consisting of services such as on-the-job training, employee assistance services and, where possible, evaluations and job placement referral.

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Camden County.

Geographic area served: Southern New Jersey and Philadelphia.

Eligibility requirements: 18 and older, blind or visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: Bestnews (company newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Employment: Provides job training and employment. Sells manufactured products online—traffic safety clothing, non-sterile examination gloves, paper towels, tool bags, construction aprons, portfolios, household products, laundry nets.

Camden Eye Center: Lions Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

400 Chambers Avenue
Camden, NJ 08103

Tel: (856) 365-1811

(856) 964-9054 (Fax)

www.camdeneye.com/

E-mail: info@camdeneye.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye care services for poor, low-income, uninsured and underinsured residents of Camden City, Camden County and surrounding Southern New Jersey counties.

Established: 1961.

County/District where located: Camden County.

Geographic area served: Camden City, Camden County and other areas of southern New Jersey.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Budget: \$900,000.

Clients served annually: 11,000.

Staff: 8. Low vision assistants, ophthalmologist, optometrists, optometry students, optometry residents.

Publications: Outlook (quarterly newsletter), Amblyopia Newsletter, and Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Education Services, Preschool Programs to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Maintains three outreach facilities and a mobile vision clinic.

Education Services: Educational programs offered at senior centers.

Preschool: Amblyopia Screening and Remediation Programs. Collaboration with local Lions Clubs.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Blackwood: Camden County Regional Health and Executive Campus, Michael DiPiero Building, Blackwood, NJ 08012, eyescreen@aol.com, Lawrence A. Ragone

West Collingswood: Parkview on the Terrace, 700 Browning Road, West Collingswood, NJ 08107, eyescreen@aol.com, Lawrence A. Ragone

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark: Program for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

505 South Avenue

Cranford, NJ 07106

Tel: (908) 497-3900

(908) 709-9580 (Fax)

www.ccsnewark.org/

Clare Elton, Division Director, celton@ccsnewark.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a structured, supportive environment to elderly and handicapped seniors to enable them to maximize their daily living and interpersonal functioning.

Geographic area served: Union County.
Eligibility requirements: Title XX-eligible Union County residents, age 60+ blind and visually impaired.
Hours of operation: Thurs. 7:30 AM-9:00 PM.
Fee structure: No fee to clients.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.
Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services and advocacy counseling.
Recreation: Provides recreational activities, such as crafts groups, music activities, exercise classes.
Rehabilitation: Provides a range of recreational, therapeutic, socialization activities and concrete services to help elderly people maximize their daily living and interpersonal functioning.
Transportation: Provides transportation services.

Electronic Information and Education Service (EIES)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

59 Scotland Road
 South Orange, NJ 07079
 Tel: (973) 762-0552
 (973) 761-6879 (Fax)
www.eiesofnj.org/mission.html
 E-mail: njeies@eiesofnj.org
 Frank Scafidi, General Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide in an efficient manner, immediate, direct and convenient access to the printed word, to those individuals whose ability to read is severely impaired by a visual disability.
Established: 1974.
County/District where located: Essex County.
Geographic area served: 40-mile radius from South Orange.
Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment, physical disability.
Hours of operation: 7 days a week, 8:00 AM-10:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from books, newspapers (Star Ledger, USA Today, Wall Street Journal, New York Times), and magazines (Smithsonian, Time, People, New Jersey Monthly, Catholic Advocate, Jewish News, Bergen News).

George Meyer Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

375 McCarter Highway
 Newark, NJ 07114
 Tel: (973) 648-2547
 (973) 824-8926 (Fax)
 Donald H. Potenski, Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Essex County.
Geographic area served: Primarily New Jersey; informational services to other states.
Ages served: 0 to 21.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Textbooks.
Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in New Jersey.

LIFT

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

P.O. Box 4264
 Warren, NJ 07059
 Tel: (800) 552-5438
 (908) 707-9840
 (908) 707-9848 (Fax)
www.lift-inc.org
 E-mail: liftinc@aol.com
 Donna W. Kozberg, President
 Adrienne Sherman, Administrative Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To recruit, hire, train, and place physically disabled people in professional level information management positions.
Established: 1975.
Geographic area served: National.
Eligibility requirements: Physical disability.
Ages served: 21 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.
Funded by: Client fees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Administers aptitude test for candidates.
Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software.
Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides computer training and assistance to clients.

Employment: After training period, places students as computer programming consultants to major corporations.

Professional Training: Offers training in computer programming and subsequent placement as programming consultant.

National Institute for Rehabilitation Engineering

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

P.O. Box 1088

Hewitt, NJ 07421

Tel: (800) 736-2216 (Toll-free in all states)

(973) 853-6585

(928) 832-2894 (Fax)

www.theoffice.net/nire

E-mail: nire@theoffice.net

Tom Schwanda, President and Chairman
Donald Selwyn, Executive Vice President,
dons@theoffice.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people with disabilities to better their lives through the use of appropriate assistive technology.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Passaic County, NJ.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistive technology and support services to schools, employers, and disability service providers.

Employment: Offers career planning and employment assistance.

Information and Referral: Provides information, advice, and referrals as appropriate, including guidance on ADA compliance.

New Eyes for the Needy

See U.S. National Organizations.

New Jersey Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

214 W. State Street

Trenton, NJ 08608

Tel: (609) 392-1201

(609) 392-2664 (Fax)

www.njao.org/

E-mail: membership@njao.org

Beverly Lynch, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advocate the uniqueness of the profession of ophthalmology by educating both its members and the public in order to enable ophthalmologists to provide the highest quality of service to the public.

New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

153 Halsey Street

6th Floor

Newark, NJ 07101

Tel: (973) 648-2324

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/cbvi/

Vito de Santis, Executive Director,

vito.desantis@dhs.state.nj.us

Jamie Casabianca Hilton, Manager, Statewide Services,

(973) 648-3160, (973) 648-7674 (Fax),

jamie.chilton@dhs.state.nj.us

Lorraine Clark, Coordinator, Independent Living

Program, (973) 648-7924, (973) 648-7364 (Fax),

lorraine.clark@dhs.state.nj.us

John Klein, Supervisor, Business Enterprise Program,

john.klein@dhs.state.nj.us

Cynthia Madric, Educational Supervisor, (973)

648-2547, (973) 824-8926 (Fax),

cynthia.madric@dhs.state.nj.us

Jose Morales, Manager, Northern Regional, (973)

648-4780, (973) 648-7674 (Fax),

jose.morales@dhs.state.nj.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer the federal-state vocational rehabilitation program.

Established: 1910.

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Eligibility requirements: 20/40 visual acuity or field restriction of 20 degrees or less.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Residential Facilities: Joseph Kohn Rehabilitation Center, New Brunswick.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides vision screening for preschool children.

Community Outreach Programs: Operates mobile screening unit.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems.

Counseling: Contracts with a community organization to set up self-help groups throughout New Jersey. Has on-staff social workers and counselors.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services.

Education Services: Provides itinerant services to visually impaired children birth to 21, deaf-blind program, residential and special placement programs, transitional services for high school to college, institutional and day training center, technical assistance, college unit.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, vocational training and job placement, vending facility program, follow-up services.

Health/Medical: Offers eye health nursing, diabetic retina detection, glaucoma screening follow-up, vision screening of children of migratory workers and other at-risk populations.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Operates summer camp for children.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills and offers home instruction programs. Provides independent living services for visually impaired persons age 55 and above.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Camden: Southern Regional Office, 101 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ 08103, Patricia Davis, Manager

Cardiff: Cardiff Regional Office, 6712 Washington Avenue, Suite 205, Cardiff, NJ 08232, Patricia Davis, Manager

Toms River: Central Regional Office, 1510 Hooper Avenue, Suite 2400, Toms River, NJ 08753, John Reiff, Manager

STATEWIDE OFFICES

New Brunswick: Joseph Kohn Residential Rehabilitation Center, 130 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Trenton: Business Enterprise Program, P.O. Box 721, Trenton, NJ 08625

LOCAL OFFICES

Newark: Textbook and Materials Center, 375 McCarter Highway, Newark, NJ 07114, Donald Potenski, Manager

New Jersey Department of Education: Office of Special Education Programs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

P.O. Box 500

Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

Tel: (609) 292-4469

(609) 984-8432 (TDD/TTY)

(609) 984-8422 (Fax)

www.state.nj.us/njded/specialed/

Barbara Gantwerk, Director, Student Services, (609) 292-0147

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a free awareness and referral service to assist parents, professionals, and the general public by identifying free available early intervention, preschool, or special education programs and to provide technical assistance for parents and professionals regarding the education of children with hearing and vision difficulties.

County/District where located: Mercer County.

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Funded by: Public funds, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Oversees special education programs in local school districts and provides consultation/technical assistance to school personnel and families.

Parent Assistance: Offers training and assistance to families of students with disabilities regarding specific issues of special education.

Preschool: Implements a preschool consultant system that provides technical assistance and training in issues related to preschool education of students with disabilities.

Professional Training: Provides a variety of professional training related to the provision of special and related services.

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services: Aging and Community Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

P.O. Box 807

Trenton, NJ 08625

Tel: (800) 792-8820 (Information & Referral In-State)

(609) 292-3766

(609) 588-3601 (Fax)

www.state.nj.us/health/senior/index.shtml

Eileen B. O'Connor, Assistant Commissioner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services: Division of Family Health Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

P.O. Box 364

Trenton, NJ 08625-0364

Tel: (609) 777-7734

(609) 292-0296 (Fax)

www.njeis.org

Terry Harrison, Part C Coordinator,

terry.harrison@doh.state.nj.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for New Jersey's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

New Jersey Foundation for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

230 Diamond Spring Road

Denville, NJ 07834

Tel: (973) 627-0055

(973) 627-1622 (Fax)

www.njffb.org/

E-mail: info@njffb.org

Donna Meade, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the welfare of the blind of the state of New Jersey, to ameliorate their condition in whatever manner possible through accepted procedures of rehabilitation, and to stimulate and encourage their social, economic, and recreational development.

Established: 1942.

County/District where located: Morris County.

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Eligibility requirements: Legally or totally blind. Must be ambulatory.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offer braille instruction for all ability levels, from beginner to advanced.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Computer Training: Provides a complete program of computer study and how to use computers through the use of adaptive technology software. Other topics for

instruction include computer keyboard navigation, Windows navigation, word processing, e-mail skills, and Internet skills. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Recreation: Offers recreational activities, including arts and crafts.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living.

New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2300 Stuyvesant Avenue

Trenton, NJ 08625-0501

Tel: (800) 792-8322 (Also, Spanish 1-800-582-5945)

(609) 530-4000

(877) 882-5593 (TDD/TTY) (Toll-free)

(609) 530-6384 (Fax)

www2.njstatelib.org/lbh

E-mail: njlbh@njstatelib.org

Venetia V. Demson, Director, vdemson@njstatelib.org

Christine Lisiecki, Adult Services Librarian, Readers'

Services, clisiecki@njstatelib.org

Anne McArthur, Assistant Director,

amcarthur@njstatelib.org

Karen Messick, Youth Services Librarian,

kmessick@njstatelib.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide reading materials in braille, large print, and recorded format, as well as descriptive videos, for adults and children who for a physical reason cannot read or use with ease regular books and magazines.

Established: 1968.

County/District where located: Mercer County.

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 3 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Sat. (except July and August) 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 12,000.

Staff: 28.

Fee structure: Free loan of books and magazines in braille, cassette, in large print. Audiovision newspaper information service. Small one-time \$20 fee for loan of described videos.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Provides videocassettes with descriptive narrative.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Publications read include the Trenton Times, Camden Courier Post, Asbury Park Press, Home News Tribune, Newark Star Ledger, Bergen Record, South Jersey edition Philadelphia Inquirer.

New Jersey Society of Optometric Physicians

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

20 Texas Avenue
Laurenceville, NJ 08648
Tel: (609) 671-0900
(609) 671-1820 (Fax)
www.njsop.org/
E-mail: njoa@aol.com

Bryan Markowitz, Executive Director,
bmarkowitz@njsop.org

Prevent Blindness New Jersey

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

2525 Route 130 South
Building D
Cranbury, NJ 08512
Tel: (609) 409-0770
www.preventblindness.org
E-mail: pblindness@aol.com
Donna Meade, Executive Director, pblindness@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health, and eye safety.

Library: Maintains a full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma compliance to patients.

Prevent Blindness Tri-State

See Connecticut.

Princeton Braillists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

76 Leabrook Lane
Princeton, NJ 08540-3659
Tel: (215) 357-7715

Nancy S. Amick, Co-Chairman, (609) 924-5207

Ruth H. Bogia, Co-Chairman

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To supply braille maps for visually impaired persons.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Mercer County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 12 and above.

Clients served annually: 100.

Staff: 4. All volunteer staff.

Fee structure: Charge for material only.

Publications: Descriptive materials about maps (available in print or braille).

Additional information: All business conducted by mail; information provided by phone or by mail.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille / Audio / Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Tactile maps: Outline Maps of the World, Atlas of North and South America, British Isles, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Middle East, Central and South Asia, East Asia, Bible lands (Old Testament), some individual U.S. states, and diagrams of basic human anatomy.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: New Jersey Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

69 Mapleton Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
Tel: (609) 750-1830
(609) 750-1838 (Fax)
www.rfbd.org

Sandi Wilson, Development Director, (609) 750-9579,
swilson@rfbd.org

Christine Ranaghan, Educational Outreach Director,
(609) 750-0595, cranaghan@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: A mix of staff and volunteers.

Fee structure: Please refer to www.rfbd.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference materials.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Princeton: West Windsor Studio, 212 Carnegie Center, Suite 202, Princeton, NJ 08540

St. Joseph's Home for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Residential facility**

537 Pavonia Avenue

Jersey City, NJ 07306

Tel: (201) 653-8300

E-mail: sjhb@compuserv.com

Sister Ann Taylor, CSJP, LNHA, Administrator, (201) 653-7705 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Hudson County.

Geographic area served: Hudson County.

Eligibility requirements: Physician's order and admissions procedure.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Accessible to wheelchair users.

Residential Facilities: Nursing home.

Funded by: Client fees, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Fee structure: Private pay, Medicare, Medicaid.

Additional information: 15 totally blind residents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Health/Medical, Housing Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Services available.

Health/Medical: Provides physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy.

Housing Services: Operates nursing home for people age 55 and over. Prioritizes blindness or visual impairment in admissions.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides orientation and mobility training, physical/occupational/speech therapy.

St. Joseph's School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ School for the blind**

253 Baldwin Avenue

Jersey City, NJ 07306

Tel: (800) 457-8563

(201) 653-0578

(201) 653-4087 (Fax)

www.sjsb.net

E-mail: info@sjsb.net

Gerald Kitzhoffer, Chief School Administrator

Dennis Cruz, Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational services for blind, visually impaired, multiply disabled, or deaf-blind children and adults.

Established: 1891.

County/District where located: Hudson County.

Geographic area served: New Jersey.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, multiply disabled with blindness/visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage.

Residential Facilities: Monday through Friday for school-age during school year. Year-round for adult community residents.

Staff: Professionals, paraprofessionals and volunteers.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: School newsletter, early intervention program newsletter.

Additional information: Majority of school students are day students.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides educational evaluation.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille literacy.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance to school districts and others serving persons with blindness or visual impairment.

Counseling: Social workers assist parents and participating agencies. Provides social evaluation and individual counseling.

Early Intervention: Offers home-based early intervention program for infants and toddlers. Provides certified teachers, social workers, and orientation and mobility specialists.

Education Services: Provides educational services for children and young adults 3-21 years of age. Follows New Jersey core curriculum standards.

Employment: Provides training in pre-vocational, vocational, and occupational skills.

Health/Medical: Nurse available to provide services to students.

Information and Referral: Refers to community resources for services not provided by agency.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides consultation and referral to related service providers, in-house visits, parent counseling and workshops.

Preschool: Offers pre-academic program with transitional component to local school district.

Professional Training: Offers ongoing professional in-service development activities and internship/fieldwork placement in special education, social work, speech and language therapy.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, community integration, year-round swimming and adapted playground.

Rehabilitation: Offers training in communications and individual rehabilitation plans. Has an independent living program for public school students.

The Seeing Eye

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

P.O. Box 375

Morristown, NJ 07963-0375

Tel: (800) 539-4425

(973) 539-4425

(973) 539-0922 (Fax)

www.seeingeye.org

E-mail: info@seeingeye.org

Kenneth Rosenthal, President

Judy Deuschle, Director of Student Services,
jdeuschle@seeingeye.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the independence, dignity and self-confidence of blind people through the use of dog guides.

Established: 1929.

County/District where located: Morris County.

Geographic area served: United States, Puerto Rico and Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Sufficient vision loss to enable effective work with a dog guide; good independent travel skills; physical, emotional and financial ability to care for a dog guide.

Ages served: 16 to 75.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility, braille signage. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Private rooms with bath.

Staff: Instructors undergo a 3-year apprenticeship program.

Fee structure: \$150 for first dog, \$50 for subsequent dog (replacement).

Publications: The Seeing Eye Guide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Dog Guide: The Seeing Eye provides training in the use of a dog guide and follow-up services for graduates.

Information and Referral: Has public education program, which includes providing films and speakers by special request.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Willowdale: 105 Gordon Baker Road, Willowdale, ON M2H 3PH

TFB Publications

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

234 Lafayette Avenue

Cliffside Park, NJ 07010

Tel: (201) 313-8905

E-mail: tfb@panix.com

John Dragona, Publisher

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide inexpensive braille materials.

County/District where located: Hudson County.

Fee structure: 15 cents per braille page (may vary according to volume or complexity), binding extra.

Publications: Wire-bound catalogues of braille materials in various categories.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Text materials other than music or Nemeth, computer-related materials, women's-interest and health-related materials, menus, bills, brochures. Materials for braille must be submitted via e-mail or disk. Also publishes wire-bound braille catalogues of braille materials in various categories like crafts patterns (knitting and

crocheting), children's stories, general publications, adult-interest material.

Transaction Large Print

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

New Mexico

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services
Department
(866) 451-2901

New Mexico Commission for the Blind
(888) 513-7968

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

New Mexico Department of Health: Family
Infant Toddler Program
(877) 696-1472

Educational Services

New Mexico State Department of Education:
Special Education Office
(505) 827-6541

Instructional Materials Center

New Mexico Instructional Resource Center
(505) 437-3505

Rehabilitation Services

New Mexico Commission for the Blind
(888) 513-7968

School for the Blind

New Mexico School for the Visually
Handicapped
(800) 437-3505

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

New Mexico Commission for the Blind

Infant/Preschool Agencies

New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped
Early Childhood Programs

Libraries

New Mexico Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

New Mexico Ophthalmological Society
New Mexico Optometric Association

Schools for the Blind

New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped

State Technology Programs

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: South Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Texas.

New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

2550 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Tel: (866) 451-2901 (New Mexico only)
(505) 476-4799

www.nmaging.state.nm.us

Deborah Armstrong, Secretary Designate,
deborah.armstrong@state.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To achieve the highest quality of life for older persons, people with disabilities and their families by enhancing autonomy, health, economic well-being, community involvement and personal responsibility.

Geographic area served: New Mexico.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, Information and Referral, Legal Services, Volunteer Services to older persons.

Employment: Provides employment training for low-income seniors.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to services for seniors.

Legal Services: Provides referrals for legal services.

Volunteer Services: Provides volunteer opportunities that support seniors.

New Mexico Commission for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

2905 Rodeo Park Drive, East

Building 4, Suite 100

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Tel: (888) 513-7968

(505) 476-4479

(505) 476-4475 (Fax)

www.state.nm.us/cftb

Greg Trapp, Executive Director,

greg.trapp@state.nm.us

James Salas, Deputy Director, Vocational

Rehabilitation, Older Blind/Independent Living,

(505) 841-8844, james.salas@state.nm.us

Sandy B. Sandoval, Deputy Director, Administrative

Services, Financial and Information Systems, (505)

476-4455, sandy.sandoval@state.nm.us

Mike Santullo, Manager, NEWSLINE Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage and enable blind citizens of New Mexico to achieve vocational, economic, and social equality, by providing career preparation, training in the skills of blindness and, above all, to promote the belief that blindness is not a barrier to employment, nor to living a full, meaningful life.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Santa Fe County.

Geographic area served: New Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness, a progressive condition which will lead to legal blindness, or an eye condition functionally equivalent to legal blindness.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: All facilities fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory for adults, elderly persons, multiply disabled persons.

Staff: Paid staff of 112, supplemented by 170 volunteer readers for Newsline program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers vocational rehabilitation assessment and technical assessment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides basic braille instruction with adult literacy when necessary.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts general outreach activities.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Technical assistance available.

Counseling: Offers psychological testing and evaluation, individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling. Contracts, refers for and provides consultation to other agencies on counseling/social work services.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending facility training and placement.

Information and Referral: Refers for counseling/social work services, other health services, and recreational services.

Parent Assistance: Provides advocacy, information and referral, family services.

Reading Services: Newsline.

Recreation: Offers recreational activities (hiking, rock climbing, and swimming) in conjunction with Orientation Center and student summer program.

Rehabilitation: Provides full range of vocational rehabilitation services designed to maximize consumer choice and positive employment outcomes. Provides independent living training and counseling for seniors.

LOCAL OFFICES

Alamogordo: 408 North White Sands Boulevard, Alamogordo, NM 88310, Adelmo Vigil, Deputy

Director, Adult Orientation Center and Independent Living/Older Blind Program
Albuquerque: 2200 Yale Boulevard, S.E. , Albuquerque, NM 87106
Farmington: 800 East 30th Street, Suite E, Farmington, NM 87401
Las Cruces: 301 South Church,, Suite C, Dona Ana Savings Office Plaza, Las Cruces, NM 88001
Las Vegas: 2505 Ridge Runner Road, Las Vegas, NM 87701
Roswell: 400 North Pennsylvania, Suite 1080, Roswell, NM 88201
Santa Fe: 1313 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87503

New Mexico Department of Health: Family Infant Toddler Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

1190 South St. Francis Drive
 Santa Fe, NM 87502
 Tel: (877) 696-1472
 (505) 827-2578
 (505) 827-2578 (Fax)
 www.health.state.nm.us
 Cathy Stevenson, Deputy Director, Long Term Services Division, (505) 827-2574, (505) 827-2455 (Fax),
 cathy.stevenson@doh.state.nm.us
 Andy Gomm, Part C Coordinator, (505) 827-2455 (Fax),
 agomm@health.state.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide for all infants and toddlers with or at risk for developmental delays, and their families quality early intervention supports and services that are accessible to all groups and communities throughout New Mexico.

Geographic area served: New Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: Children (ages 0-3) who have or at-risk for developmental delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 6,000+.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for New Mexico's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
Health/Medical: Provides health and medical services as required under IDEA Part C for diagnostic purposes.
Parent Assistance: Offers family education, counseling, and home visits.

New Mexico Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

New Mexico School for the Blind
 1900 N. White Sands Boulevard
 Alamogordo, NM 88310
 Tel: (505) 437-3505
 (505) 439-4417 (Fax)
 www.nmsvh.k12.nm.us/OutReach/IRC/IRCMain.htm
 Ruthie Ford, IRC, rford@nmsbvi.k12.nm.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in New Mexico.

New Mexico Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1209 Camino Carlos Rey
 Santa Fe, NM 87507-5166
 Tel: (800) 456-5515 (Toll-free in New Mexico)
 (505) 476-9770
 (505) 476-9776 (Fax)
 www.stlib.state.nm.us
 E-mail: lbph@stlib.state.nm.us
 John R. Mugford, Regional Librarian, (505) 476-9772,
 jmugford@stlib.state.nm.us
 Jerome Packard, Assistant Regional Librarian, (505)
 476-9771, jpackard@stlib.state.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Santa Fe County.

Geographic area served: New Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical or visual limitations that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Budget: \$ 266,540.

Clients served annually: 4,000.

Staff: 7.5 full-time employees.

Publications: Bi-monthly newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, descriptive videos, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

New Mexico Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

NM Eye PAC
8100 Wyoming Boulevard NE, M-4 #130
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Tel: (505) 962-0358
(505) 962-9221 (Fax)
www.nmos.org/
Sylvia Burns, Executive Director,
nmos_sb@hotmail.com

New Mexico Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1008-A Paseo del Pueblo Sur PMB #241
Taos, NM 87571
Tel: (505) 751-7242
(505) 751-7243 (Fax)
E-mail: fleece@laplaza.org
Richard Montoya, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the vision care and health of the public and to promote the art and science of the profession of optometry.
Established: 1904.
County/District where located: Taos County.
Geographic area served: New Mexico.
Publications: Closer Look (newsletter).

New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped (NMSVH)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1900 North White Sands Boulevard
Alamogordo, NM 88310
Tel: (800) 437-3505
(505) 437-3505
(505) 439-4411 (Fax)
www.nmsvh.k12.nm.us/
E-mail: webmaster@nmsvh.k12.nm.us
Dianna Jennings, Superintendent,
djennings@nmsvh.k12.nm.us
Kenalea Johnson, Director of Outreach/Media Services,
KJohnson@nmsvh.k12.nm.us
Carolyn Vick, Student Services Coordinator,
CVick@nmsvh.k12.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the training, support, and resources necessary to prepare children who are blind, visually impaired, or multiply impaired in New Mexico

to participate fully in their families, community, and work force and to lead independent, productive lives.

Established: 1903.

County/District where located: Otero County.

Geographic area served: New Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment, including blindness, that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance. Includes both partial sight and blindness.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Residential facility staffed 24 of 30 days per month. Students travel home on weekends and remain on campus 3 weekends per school year. Summer camps run throughout summer.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories available.

Clients served annually: Excess of 400.

Staff: 61 certified; 124 non-certified. Uses volunteers in addition to staff.

Fee structure: None.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision assessment, orientation and mobility evaluation, assistive technology assessment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational, professional material.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides statewide outreach services, including assessment, parental counseling, consultation to teachers, therapists, administrators.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical support to public schools, teachers, therapists and administrators working with blind/visually impaired students.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation; individual, group, family, and parent counseling. Refers for other services.

Education Services: Provides play/nursery school, college preparatory, general academic (grades K-12) programs. Offers vocational/skill development, and remedial education services. Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in New Mexico.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, transition planning, job retention, follow-up service. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Offers general medical services, physical therapy, speech therapy. Contracts for other health services.

Information and Referral: Provides information about school's programs for children who are blind or visually impaired. Refers to other agencies where appropriate.

Library: Maintains library of talking book records/tapes, braille books, large print books, magazines in braille/recorded format.

Low Vision: Does follow-up evaluation of eye treatment or prescription. Prescribes spectacles or low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides information and support to parents of public school students who are blind or visually impaired.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, swimming, track, wrestling, skiing, gymnastics. Refers for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, listening, typing, and home management skills and remedial education, sensory training. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped Early Childhood Programs (NMSVH-ECP)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

230 Truman, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108
Tel: (800) 437-3505
(505) 268-9506
(505) 265-4866 (Fax)
www.nmsvh.k12.nm.us

Linda M. Lyle, Principal, llyle@nmsvh.k12.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the training, support, and resources necessary to prepare blind and visually impaired children of New Mexico to participate fully in their families, communities, and the work force, and to lead independent, productive lives.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Bernalillo County.

Geographic area served: Albuquerque and surrounding areas.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Completely accessible.

Funded by: State funds.

Clients served annually: 450 Birth-3; 55-60 preschool age.

Staff: 50. Staff consists of developmental specialists (Birth-3) serving children in a home-based model and preschool staff including teachers of the visually impaired; teaching assistants; physical, occupational and speech therapists; nurses; audiologist; and O&M instructors.

Fee structure: Free to families.

Publications: Transportation is provided by LEAs who place students at the preschool.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision evaluations, psychological testing and evaluation.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, psychological testing/evaluation, counseling, parent counseling through public school system via a joint powers agreement.

Early Intervention: Provides direct service in natural environments to infants and toddlers, 0-3, who have a visual impairment or blindness.

Education Services: Offers instruction in all developmental areas and consultant services to other programs.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent counseling through public school system, parent center-based program.

Preschool: Offers center-based programs: parent, infant, and toddler program (birth through age 3), preschool program (age 3 through 6), home-based program for medically fragile children.

Professional Training: Provides training for early interventionists, public school teachers in the area of vision and deaf-blindness.

New Mexico State Department of Education: Special Education Office

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

300 Don Gaspar Street
Santa Fe, NM 87501-2786
Tel: (505) 827-6541
(505) 827-6791 (Fax)
www.ped.state.nm.us

Sam Howarth, State Director of Special Education,
showarth@ped.state.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide equal educational opportunities so that students reach their full potential by mastering learning skills and knowledge and by acquiring desirable personal qualities and values.

Geographic area served: New Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: In need of special education services as specified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, New Mexico state statutes, and New Mexico Standards for Excellence.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Assures the provision of special education services by local education agencies as specified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, New Mexico state statutes, and New Mexico Standards for Excellence.

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ State technology program**

435 St. Michael's Drive

Building D

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Tel: (800) 866-2253

(505) 954-8539

(800) 659-4915 (TDD/TTY)

(505) 954-8608 (Fax)

www.nmtap.com

Andy Winnegar, Director, awinnegar@state.nm.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help persons with disabilities enhance their quality of life through the use of assistive technology.

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Offers teachers, therapists, case managers, and DVR counselors the opportunity to try out an assistive device with their students/clients prior to purchase.

Employment: Provides help with finding a job, other related programs.

Financial Assistance: Offers low cost financial loans to qualified persons with disabilities to purchase assistive devices or equipment.

Information and Referral: Provides information on local assistive technology service providers, potential funding sources, information about transportation and provides help in determining the types of benefits for which an individual qualifies.

New York

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

New York State Education Department: Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities
(518) 474-2714

New York State Office for the Aging
(800) 342-9871

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

New York State Department of Health: Early Intervention Program
(518) 473-7016

Educational Services

New York State Education Department: Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities
(518) 474-2714

Instructional Materials Center

New York Resource Center for the Visually Impaired
(585) 343-5384

Rehabilitation Services

New York State Office of Children and Family Services: Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped
(518) 474-7501

School for the Blind

New York State School for the Blind
(877) 697-7382

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Access USA
Baruch College Computer Center for Visually Impaired People
Braille Transcribers of Central New York
Bridge Multimedia
Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Chautauqua Blind Association
East Midwood Jewish Center: Sisterhood Braille Group
Helen Keller Services for the Blind
Lighthouse International
Nassau Community College Library
National Braille Association
Onondaga Braillelists
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: New York Unit
Sisterhood Temple Israel of Jamaica

Southern Tier Association for the Visually Impaired
Spencerport Lions Braille Service
VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Dog Guide Schools

Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind
Guiding Eyes for the Blind

Educational Agencies

Baruch College Computer Center for Visually Impaired People
New York City Public Schools, District 75: Educational Vision Services

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment, Inc.
Helen Keller Services for the Blind

Jewish Guild for the Blind
New York Institute for Special Education

Information/Referral Centers

Finger Lakes Independence Center
Foundation Fighting Blindness: New York Office
Helen Keller Services for the Blind
Jewish Guild for the Blind
Lighthouse International
National Self-Help Clearinghouse
Southern Tier Association for the Visually Impaired
VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Westchester Independent Living Center

Libraries

Andrew Heiskell Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, New York Public Library (NLS)
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired-Goodwill Industries of Greater Rochester, Inc.
Jewish Braille Institute of America
Long Island Talking Book Library, Outreach Services, Suffolk Cooperative Library System (NLS)
New York Public Library: Mid-Manhattan Library, Accessibility Services
New York State Talking Book and Braille Library (NLS)
Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired
Queens Borough Public Library: Special Services
Radio Vision-Ramapo Catskill Library System

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired-Goodwill Industries of Greater Rochester, Inc.
Cattaraugus County Association for the Blind and Visually Handicapped/Interfaith Caregivers
Helen Keller Services for the Blind
Henkind Eye Institute
Jewish Guild for the Blind
Lighthouse International: New York Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Services (Poughkeepsie)
Lighthouse International: New York Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Services (White Plains)
Lighthouse International
New York Eye and Ear Infirmary
Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany
Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired
Southern Tier Association for the Visually Impaired
State University of New York: College of Optometry, Low Vision Service
VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Western New York Center for the Visually Impaired

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Achilles Track Club
National Association for Visually Handicapped

Membership Organizations (Professional)

International Society on Metabolic Eye Disease
National Braille Association
New York State Ophthalmological Society
New York State Optometric Association

National Organizations

Achilles Track Club
American Foundation for the Blind
American Foundation for the Blind: AccessWorld Solutions
American Foundation for the Blind: Talking Book Productions
The Associated Blind
Association for Macular Diseases
Association of Junior Leagues International Inc.
Association of Visual Science Librarians (AVSL)
AWARE (Associates for World Action in Rehabilitation and Education)
Eye Care Foundation
Fight for Sight
Glaucoma Foundation
Helen Keller International
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults
IN TOUCH Networks
International Society on Metabolic Eye Disease
Jewish Braille Institute of America
Lighthouse International
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation
National Association for Visually Handicapped
National Braille Association
National Marfan Foundation
National Self-Help Clearinghouse
Research to Prevent Blindness

National Publishers

American Bible Society
American Foundation for the Blind
Choice Magazine Listening
Jewish Braille Institute of America
Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind
New York Times Large Type Weekly
Xavier Society for the Blind

Postsecondary Institutions

Dominican College
Hunter College of The City University of New York
Teachers College, Columbia University: Department of Health and Behavior Studies

Radio Reading Stations

IN TOUCH Networks
Jewish Guild for the Blind
Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service
Northeast Radio Reading Service
WCNY-READ-OUT Radio Reading Service

WMHT Public Broadcasting
WXXI Reachout Radio

Rehabilitation Agencies

Association for the Advancement of Blind and Retarded
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired-Goodwill Industries of Greater Rochester, Inc.
Association for the Visually Impaired
Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment, Inc.
Aurora of Central New York
Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service
Catholic Charities Services for Visually Impaired Persons
Catholic Guild for the Blind
Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Chautauqua Blind Association
Glens Falls Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults
Helen Keller Services for the Blind
Industries for the Blind of New York State
Jewish Guild for the Blind
Lighthouse International
National Association for Visually Handicapped
New York City Industries for the Blind
North Country Association for the Visually Impaired

Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany
Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired
Resource Center for Independent Living
Southern Tier Association for the Visually Impaired
VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Western New York Center for the Visually Impaired

Research Organizations

Baruch College Computer Center for Visually Impaired People
Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration
Helen Keller International
Jewish Guild for the Blind
Research to Prevent Blindness

Residential Facilities

Guild Home for Aged Blind

Schools for the Blind

Lavelle School for the Blind
New York Institute for Special Education
New York State School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Catholic Charities: Office for Disabled Persons
Cattaraugus County Association for the Blind and Visually Handicapped/Interfaith Caregivers
Hospital Audiences, Inc.
VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

State Technology Programs

New York State TRAIID Project

Access USA

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

242 James Street
Clayton, NY 13624
Tel: (800) 263-2750
www.access-usa.com
E-mail: info@access-usa.com
Deborah Haight, PICOE, deborah@access-usa.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services and products in alternate formats quickly and efficiently to those endeavoring to make their information more accessible to more people.

Established: 1990.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada, and abroad.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: 1-10.

Fee structure: Varies according to services and products required.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes Braille & Print Q&E Stickers & Braille ToughTags for teachers, office business, hotels, restaurants, advertising, fund-raising, equipment manufacturers and more.

Audiodescription: Provides audiodescription services for educational, informational, dramatic, training, corporate, or entertainment videos. Also offers open and closed captioning and subtitling services etc. for one-stop video convenience.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print). **Types of content:** Provides transcription and production services for all types of alternate formats to make any kind of documentation more accessible. Alternate formats include braille transcription, large print production, professional audio recordings, and electronic media. Documentation to be considered includes brochures; billing; government tests; greeting cards; menus; technical manuals; monthly statements for banks, utility and telecom; safety brochures; train/bus schedules; conference or event programs; employment

documentation; corporate documents; newsletters; general interest; letters; promotional materials; children's books; and more. Materials for AF may be submitted via e-mail, disk and hard copy. Custom-made services include: maps; ADA, Retro and temporary signage; tactile graphics and a wide variety of promotional specialties that can be used to create interest and marketing impact. Produces braille business cards.

Achilles Track Club (ATC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Bible Society

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Foundation for the Blind: AccessWorld Solutions (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Foundation for the Blind: Talking Book Productions

See U.S. National Organizations.

Andrew Heiskell Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, New York Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

40 West 20th Street
New York, NY 10011-4211
Tel: (212) 206-5400
(212) 206-5458 (TDD/TTY)
(212) 206-5418 (Fax)
www.nypl.org/branch/lb/
E-mail: ahlbph@nypl.org
Robert McBrien, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: New York City and Long Island.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

The Associated Blind (TAB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Association for Macular Diseases

See U.S. National Organizations.

Association for the Advancement of Blind and Retarded (AABR)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

15-08 College Point Boulevard
College Point, NY 11356
Tel: (718) 321-3800
(718) 321-8688 (Fax)
www.aabr.org

Christopher J. Weldon, Executive Director, (728)
321-8688 (Fax), cweldon@aabr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people with developmental disabilities lead meaningful lives in our society.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Queens County.

Geographic area served: New York City.

Eligibility requirements: Developmentally disabled.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Residential: 24 hours. Schools:
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential school.

Fee structure: Cost-based fees.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Offers educational programs for students who are developmentally disabled, some of whom are visually impaired.

Housing Services: Operates and maintains residential facilities for people with developmental disabilities throughout the state.

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired-Goodwill Industries of Greater Rochester, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Library
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

422 South Clinton Avenue
 Rochester, NY 14620-1198
 Tel: (585) 232-1111 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (585) 232-1698 (TDD/TTY)
 (585) 232-2972 (Fax)
www.abvi-goodwill.org
 E-mail: info@abvi-goodwill.com
 A. Gidget Hopf, President/CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people who are blind or visually impaired to achieve their highest level of independence in all aspects of their lives.

Established: 1913.

County/District where located: Monroe County.

Geographic area served: Monroe County and eight surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Severe visual impairment, legally blind or deafblind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Clients served annually: 2,400.

Staff: 235.

Fee structure: If not eligible for available state and federally funded programs, a fee-for-service payment option is available based on income eligibility.

Publications: The Beacon, Foresight, and Vision Rehab Digest.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Business/Personal Services, Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training, Counseling, Low Vision Services, Recreation Services to older persons.

Business/Personal Services: Offers shopping assistance for seniors.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides community outreach services for preventative eye care for uninsured children and adults through Project Eye Care and Vision Care for Kids programs.

Computer Training: Offers training in the use of adaptive technology for seniors. Computer operating

systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Facilitates peer support groups and provides therapeutic individual and group counseling.

Early Intervention: Offers home- and agency-based early intervention support services for infants and toddlers. A bi-weekly playgroup therapy session is available for the young child and their parent.

Employment: Provides supported employment, vocational preparation, job skills training, agency-based direct-labor employment in manufacturing, food service, call center and corporate placement programs.

Library: Provides braille, large-print and talking book materials and other library services for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies state of the art low vision devices. Non-optical items can be purchased at ABVI-Goodwill's Consumer Shoppe.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training including long-cane skills, public transportation, sensory development, sighted guide and street travel.

Preschool: Offers home- and agency-based preschool support services for blind or visually impaired children by professionally certified vision rehabilitation staff.

Professional Training: Offers sensitivity to blindness training for new staff, volunteers, board members and for community at large, and in-service training for professionals assisting people who are blind or visually impaired.

Recreation: Offers children's program for children and young adults who are blind or visually impaired including social events and outings. Offers recreational activities for seniors.

Rehabilitation: Offers a full range of training and services for activities related to daily living and vocational rehabilitation.

Support Groups: Facilitates support groups.

Association for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency

260 Old Nyack Turnpike
 Spring Valley, NY 10977
 Tel: (845) 574-4950
 (845) 574-4944 (Fax)
www.avi-eyes.org
 E-mail: avi@avi-eyes.org

Laura M. Geberth, President, laurag@avi-eyes.org
Juliana Albertie, Rehabilitation Teacher

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation and counseling services to enable blind and severely visually impaired individuals to retain or regain maximum independence and to continue to live in their homes and be participating members of their communities.

Established: 1973.

Geographic area served: Orange and Rockland Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 11 full-time, 4 part-time, plus volunteers.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers social evaluation, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, referral to community services.

Employment: Provides employment placement services. Employment specialists works one on one with consumers who wish to be employed.

Preschool: Provides one-on-one functional vision training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training programs to community agencies, professionals, and public education to community members. Offers internship and fieldwork placement in social work.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal and home management skills, daily living skills, and instruction in the use of low vision devices.

Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Infant/preschool agency
- Rehabilitation agency
- Senior services center

55 Washington Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
Tel: (607) 724-2428
(607) 771-8045 (Fax)
www.avreus.org
E-mail: avreinfo@avreus.org

Robert K. Hanye, President and CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people who have a vision disability to enhance life quality through attaining or maintaining personal and economic independence, and help remove obstacles imposed by vision disabilities.

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: Broome County.

Geographic area served: Southern Tier of New York and Northern Tier of Pennsylvania.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 2,000.

Staff: 50 employees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Assistive Products, Computer Training, Counseling, Employment, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides skill assessment, orientation and mobility assessment.

Assistive Products: Sells assistive devices and appliances.

Computer Training: Provides guidance in choosing appropriate devices and provides training in their use. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers individual, family/parent counseling, information and referral to community services, and training on accessing the community.

Early Intervention: Works with infants, children, parents and other service providers to provide skill training for the child and the parent regarding vision disability. Services include such things as sensory stimulation, pre-braille and travel skills and peer activities.

Employment: Provides job assessment, counseling, training and placement both within the organization and in the community.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers support and information on children with vision loss.

Recreation: Offers special recreational programs and support groups for adolescent/youths to seniors.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management skills. Offers training in the use of adaptive equipment. Provides training in skills for independence in the home and community.

Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Association of Vision Science Librarians (AVSL)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Aurora of Central New York

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

518 James Street, Suite 100

Syracuse, NY 13203

Tel: (315) 422-7263 (Aurora also provides a 24 hour per day, 7 day per week Interpreter Referral Hotline.)

(315) 422-9746 (TDD/TTY)

(315) 422-4792 (Fax)

www.auroraofcny.org

E-mail: auroraofcny@auroraofcny.org

Debra Chaiken, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer a broad array of rehabilitation services to individuals of all ages in Central New York who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard-of-hearing, late-deafened or deaf-blind and to enable each individual to address their unique needs and foster independence with dignity.

Established: 1917.

County/District where located: Onondaga County.

Geographic area served: Onondaga, Oswego, Cayuga, northern Cortland, and Jefferson Counties. Early Intervention Services are also provided in Tompkins County.

Eligibility requirements: Consumers who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, hard-of-hearing, deaf or late deafened.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Aurora's facilities are fully accessible for people who use wheelchairs and smoke detectors have strobe lighting for people with hearing loss. Tactile and braille signage.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds, United Way.

Budget: \$2,391,609.

Clients served annually: 1,400.

Staff: 51. Aurora's staff includes professionals in the field of blindness and deafness rehabilitation, (including cultural and linguistic perspectives), social work and employment services.

Fee structure: No fees are charged under most circumstances.

Publications: "Dawnings" newsletter published three times a year.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Business/Personal Services, Community Outreach Programs, Employment, Support Groups to older persons.

Business/Personal Services: Assists blind older adults with shopping, reading, and other activities.

Community Outreach Programs: Identifies older individuals with severe vision loss, provides information and referral services, and other means of assistance, and guides them in getting appropriate assistance.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Assists individuals and their families in developing coping skills to live safely and independently in the community.

Early Intervention: Provides specialized vision and auditory services to infants and toddlers with suspected or diagnosed sensory impairments.

Employment: In conjunction with National Industries for the Blind and the Syracuse VA Medical Center, hires qualified employees with visual impairments to staff the telephone switchboard at the VA Medical Center on a 24 hour, 7 day per week basis. In addition to answering the switchboard and directing calls, Aurora's employees are responsible for coordinating all hospital emergencies and dispatch functions. Provides training in skill building and career exploration and preparation.

Information and Referral: Provides intake and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Provides training to professionals regarding issues related to vision loss.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in skills of daily living.

Support Groups: Provides support groups in Onondaga and Cayuga Counties for adults with visual impairments.

AWARE (Associates for World Action in Rehabilitation and Education)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Baruch College Computer Center for Visually Impaired People (CCVIP)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Educational agency
- Research organization

151 East 25th Street
6th floor

New York, NY 10010

Tel: (800) 490-6609

(646) 312-1420

(646) 312-1421 (Fax)

www.baruch.cuny.edu/ccvip/

E-mail: judith_gerber@baruch.cuny.edu

Karen Gourney, Director,

karen_gourney@baruch.cuny.edu

Barbara A. DiFiore, Outreach and Marketing

Coordinator, (646) 312-1424,

barbara_difiore@baruch.cuny.edu

Judith Gerber, Manager, CCVIP,

judith_gerber@baruch.cuny.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase the freedom, independence and productivity of people who are blind or visually impaired through the power of digital technology through training, applied research, product testing and development and community awareness initiatives.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Geographic area served: New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Clients must be able to travel independently, be able to take notes and be able to use a keyboard.

Ages served: 11 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; classes also offered evenings and Saturdays.

Accessibility: CCVIP office space and lab space is wheelchair accessible.

Budget: \$400,000.

Clients served annually: 200.

Staff: 13. 2 full-time staff, 3 part-time staff and 8 adjunct instructional staff.

Fee structure: Agencies, employees, and international students pay full price; United States residents who self-pay may be eligible for partial scholarship.

Through June 2005, senior citizens and students are eligible for low fee/no fee options.

Publications: A Practical Guide to Accommodating People with Visual Impairments in the Workplace.

Additional information: The CCVIP operates as a center within Baruch College, one of the colleges of the City University of New York.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides classroom materials in large print, braille or tape, depending on the needs of the student.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/ Audio/Large Print Production, Computer Training, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Newsletters, directories, course materials, menus and other short documents.

Computer Training: Provides a monthly open house that features a hands-on demonstration of computers equipped with large-print and screen reading (synthetic speech) software. Offers entrance seminars to help students to assess their skills and select appropriate courses. Provides training in database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Classroom training in the following Microsoft applications: Windows/Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Surfing the Web using Internet Explorer/E-mail, Web Design.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations to identify most appropriate assistive technologies for customer needs.

Professional Training: Trains teachers and personnel of organizations serving visually impaired people in how to use assistive technology.

Braille Transcribers of Central New York

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer

154 Homewood Drive

Clinton, NY 13323

Tel: (315) 853-2679

Catharine B. Hugo, Director of Reader Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe textbooks into braille and provide limited taping of other materials.

Established: 1992.

County/District where located: Oneida County.

Geographic area served: Central New York given priority, nationwide requests accepted.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, private donations.

Staff: All volunteer.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational.

Education Services: Provides textbooks in braille upon request of school districts and state agencies.

Bridge Multimedia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Alternate media producer**

49 West 27th Street
Suite 901
New York, NY 10001
Tel: (212) 213-9796
(212) 213-9715 (Fax)
www.bridgemultimedia.com
E-mail: info@bridgemultimedia.com
Matt Kaplowitz, Director,
mkaplowitz@bridgemultimedia.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide universally accessible media in all forms.

Established: 1975.

Geographic area served: National.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 2,000 and above.

Staff: 10-49.

Additional information: Bridge Multimedia is a New York-based production company that uses fully digital technology to provide audiodescription for television and online applications. Bridge Multimedia is fully 508-compliant.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Provides audio and video description; closed-captioning; audio/video production and post-production; recording narration for video, Internet, DVD, CD-ROM applications; and assesses and adapts existing video and Internet content to add universal W3C- and 508-compliant accessibility.

Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Rehabilitation agency**

285 Schermerhorn Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217-1024
Tel: (718) 310-5600
(718) 855-1517 (Fax)
www.bbcs.org/
E-mail: info@bbcs.org
Donna A. Santarsiero, Executive Director, das@bbcs.org

Leslie Klein, Director, Adult Rehabilitation Services,
lklein@bbcs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to visually impaired and other disabled persons.

Established: 1866.

Geographic area served: New York City.

Eligibility requirements: Disabled adults.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers individual, family, and group counseling and psychological counseling.

Employment: Offers sheltered workshop, employment training, job placement services, diagnostic vocational evaluation.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management skills, communication skills, and offers pre-vocational group work.

Catholic Charities: Office for Disabled Persons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Social service organization**

191 Joralemon Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Tel: (718) 722-6000
(718) 722-6226 (TDD/TTY)
(718) 722-6096 (Fax)

Robert Siebel, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1945.

County/District where located: Kings County.

Geographic area served: Brooklyn and Queens.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Residential Facilities: Senior housing.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides advocacy and assistance with housing.

Recreation: Offers monthly social activities.

Catholic Charities Services for Visually Impaired Persons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Rehabilitation agency**

147 Schlegel Boulevard
Amityville, NY 11701
Tel: (631) 789-5215 or (631) 789-5218
(631) 789-5219 (TDD/TTY)
(631) 789-3844 (Fax)

www.catholiccharities.cc/ourservices/
disabilities.html

E-mail: questions@catholiccharities.cc

Kathleen M. McEntee, Program Coordinator,
McEntee.Kathleen@catholiccharities.cc

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation services for totally blind, legally blind, and visually impaired persons.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, except for contracted services that are for those legally blind. At intake, eligibility determined and, where necessary, referral made to other services.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Rehabilitation services are provided in clients' homes.

Additional information: Catholic Charities also provides food, housing, mental health, disabilities, chemical dependency, geriatric, disaster response, and HIV/AIDS services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Sends intake person to speak at service centers about program in an effort to reach the elderly who are blind or legally blind.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling and referral to community services and other counseling/social work services.

Information and Referral: Referral resources available to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers specialization program for the blind and visually impaired.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and home management skills, remedial education, and sensory training in client's home and community. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Lynbrook: Visually Impaired Persons Center,
Lynbrook, NY 11563

Catholic Guild for the Blind (CGB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022
Tel: (212) 371-1000
(212) 826-8377 (Fax)

A. Therese Snyder, Executive Director,
tsnyder@archny.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation and education services enabling persons with vision impairment to cope with the problems of everyday living and to grow towards independence. To develop the intellectual, spiritual, physical and emotional potential of all legally blind residents of New York regardless of race, color, creed, age, sex or national origin.

Established: 1953.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Geographic area served: New York City area.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Ages served: 6 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Full handicapped accessibility.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations, United Way.

Clients served annually: 250.

Staff: 6 full-time, 7 part-time.

Additional information: Also funded by Catholic Charities of Archdiocese of New York.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Provides diabetic management and insulin device training.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to low vision services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal, and home management, and adaptive communication skills.

Cattaraugus County Association for the Blind and Visually Handicapped/Interfaith Caregivers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Social service organization

124 North Union Street
Olean, NY 14760

Tel: (716) 372-6283

(716) 373-6326 (Fax)

E-mail: intfaith@localnet.com

Julie S. Wolf, Executive Director, (716) 372-6226 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work together through innovative, collaborative partnerships of congregations and human services to empower individuals to reach out to one another in time of need.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Cattaraugus County.

Geographic area served: Cattaraugus County.

Eligibility requirements: County resident.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 3 full-time, 1 part-time.

Publications: Semi-annual newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

In-Home Services: Provides telephone reassurance, respite, friendly visits, and services such as minor home repairs, lawn mowing, and shoveling snow to people who are elderly.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CABVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

507 Kent Street

Utica, NY 13501

Tel: (877) 719-9996

(315) 797-2233

(315) 797-2244 (Fax)

www.cabvi.org

E-mail: info@cabvi.org

Donald D. LoGuidice, President/CEO, donl@cabvi.org

Mary Clements, Administrative Assistant,
maryc@cabvi.org

Luca Esposito, VP, Manufacturing and Sales, Central Industries, (315) 797-2250 (Fax), lucae@cabvi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people who are blind or visually impaired to achieve their highest level of independence.

Established: 1929.

County/District where located: Oneida County.

Geographic area served: 7 counties in central New York: Oneida, Madison, Herkimer, Lewis, Montgomery, Fulton, and Otsego.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, severely visually impaired, deaf and blind, multiply disabled blind persons.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible. Wheelchair ramps and braille signage.

Budget: \$17,000,000.

Clients served annually: 980.

Staff: 154.

Publications: Newsletter, annual report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Intake worker and rehabilitation specialist determines present needs and skills level of clients.

Assistive Products: Distributes aids and appliances for independent living, home management and recreation. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks and other reading material transcribed into braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides extensive outreach services to entire upstate New York region, ensuring that information about available vision services reaches those in need of agency service.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consultation provided to school districts, social services agencies, health care organizations and the business community.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family, crisis intervention counseling and referral to community services. Provides consultation to other agencies on counseling/social work services; adult support group meetings; children's services; resource advocacy and training activities for visually impaired children.

Early Intervention: Provides comprehensive early intervention/preschool educational services including evaluation, concept development, vision training and communication skills.

Employment: Offers job evaluation, training, community placement and facility based employment at Central Industries that manufactures and sells products to state and federal government. Also has Work Activity Center for individuals who are blind and developmentally disabled. Offers telecommunication employment at VA Center.

Health/Medical: Offers glaucoma screening, preschool screening, and distance acuity vision screening. Refers for health services.

Information and Referral: Provides general information about blindness and visually impairment. When appropriate, refers to other community, state, and national organizations. Provides public education and in-service training programs upon request. Offers prevention, vocational, and other educational materials and information.

Low Vision: Certified low vision specialists provide evaluation and prescribe low vision optical aids and devices to maximize remaining vision.

Orientation and Mobility: Professionals teach consumers how to determine their location and travel safely in the home, school, workplace, or community.

Preschool: Preschool Vision Training Program serves blind and visually impaired children, many with other disabling conditions. Individual training provided in visual and compensatory skills. Works in cooperation with other area preschool programs.

Recreation: Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for some recreational services. Provides week-long summer day camp for children.

Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation offers a full range of visual rehabilitation services including independent living skills, orientation and mobility, activities of daily living, vocational rehabilitation, and occupational therapy.

Chautauqua Blind Association (CBA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Rehabilitation agency

510 West Fifth Street
Jamestown, NY 14701
Tel: (716) 664-6660
(716) 664-1193 (Fax)
E-mail: jencba@alltel.net

Joanne E. Nelson, Executive Director, jench@alltel.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable visually impaired people to be active members of their communities and to provide education and services to prevent vision loss.

Established: 1921.

County/District where located: Chautauqua County.

Geographic area served: Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired. No requirements for preschool vision screening or for adult glaucoma screening.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Ramp, accessible bathrooms and kitchen.

Budget: \$282,000.

Clients served annually: 225.

Staff: 6. Rehabilitation and O&M instructors, secretary, bookkeeper, executive director.

Fee structure: No fee for legally blind. Small fee for in-services.

Additional information: CBA is a small not-for-profit that teaches legally blind persons to be as safe and as independent as possible and that offers blindness prevention programs to general public.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (large print).

Types of content: Large-print phone directories, recipe books, or other materials requested by client.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach through screening programs, presentations, media.

Counseling: Teaching staff performs social work, networking.

Information and Referral: Networks with community and other providers of services to blind or visually impaired individuals.

Low Vision: Work with low vision specialists who prescribe and order low vision appliances for legally blind clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Provides county-wide preschool vision screening using Keystone Telebinocular machines.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitative training and training in the use of low vision devices.

Choice Magazine Listening

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Dominican College

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Postsecondary institution

470 Western Highway
Orangeburg, NY 10962
Tel: (845) 359-2908
(845) 359-6701 (Fax)
www.dc.edu

Rona Shaw, Coordinator, Program for Teachers of Blind and Visually Impaired, Teacher Education,
rona.shaw@dc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote educational excellence, leadership, and service in an environment characterized by respect for the individual and concern for the community.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Rockland County.

Geographic area served: Primarily New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

Eligibility requirements: Generally, 3.0 GPA required. If lower, conditional acceptance possible. Also, 3 letters of recommendation and interview.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Hybrid online program, trimester schedule; on-campus time on weekends.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Braille signage on all new buildings. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds.

Staff: Staff consists of one full-time faculty member, 1-3 adjuncts, and 1 secretary.

Fee structure: \$525 per graduate credit as of fall 2004.

Publications: College catalog and information brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Teacher of Blind and Visually Impaired Program leading to Master of Science in Education.

East Midwood Jewish Center: Sisterhood Braille Group

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1273 North Avenue
New Rochelle, NY 10804
Tel: (914) 654-0675

Sylvia Aig, Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: New York City metropolitan area.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational, religious.

Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Research organization

120 Wall Street
3rd floor
New York, NY 10005
Tel: (866) 287-3937
(212) 742-9000
(212) 269-3139 (Fax)

www.eyedonation.org

E-mail: info@ebsr.org

Patricia Dahl, Executive Director/CEO, pdahl@ebsr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To collect, process and distribute donated ocular tissue for transplantation, research and medical education; to provide public and professional education to encourage eye donation; and to promote research into the causes, treatment and cure of eye diseases.

Established: 1944.

County/District where located: New York.

Geographic area served: New York City, Long Island and lower Hudson Valley.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

Clients served annually: 1100 men, women and children.

Staff: 27. Laboratory, education, development and administration.

Fee structure: \$2080 processing fee per cornea, usually paid by a third party, but may be waived if necessary.

Publications: Eye-to-Eye (newsletter), periodic pamphlets.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Collects, processes and distributes donor eye tissue for sight-saving cornea transplants, medical education and research.

Eye Care Foundation

See U.S. National Organizations.

Fight for Sight

See U.S. National Organizations.

Finger Lakes Independence Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

215 Fifth Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
Tel: (607) 272-2433 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(607) 272-2433 (TDD/TTY)
(607) 272-0902 (Fax)
www.fliconline.org
E-mail: flic@clarityconnect.com

Lenore Schwager, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide programs and services to individuals with disabilities and to create an inclusive society for all.

Established: 1988.

County/District where located: Tompkins County.

Geographic area served: Tompkins, and Schuyler Counties.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Provides accessibility.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Disability outreach program provides speakers to address concerns of disabled individuals of various age groups.

Information and Referral: Refers to community-based resources for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Low Vision: Demonstrates and loans low vision devices to anyone who needs one.

Support Groups: Offers support groups for anyone with low vision.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: New York Office (FFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

122 East 42nd Street

Suite 1700

New York, NY 10168

Tel: (212) 551-7807

(212) 551-7873 (Fax)

www.fightblindness.org

E-mail: info@blindness.org

Marilyn Rogers, Administrative Assistant,

mrogers@blindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fund the research that will discover the causes, treatments, preventive methods, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

Geographic area served: New York area.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: In Focus (newsletter), In Sight (e-newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

Glaucoma Foundation

See U.S. National Organizations.

Glens Falls Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

144 Ridge Street

Glens Falls, NY 12801

Tel: (800) 792-3421

(518) 792-3421

(518) 792-3430 (Fax)

E-mail: gfab@mybluelight.com

Philip R. Jessen, CEO, (518) -792 (Fax),

gfab@mybluelight.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services and materials that promote independent functioning for blind and visually impaired persons.

Established: 1937.

County/District where located: Warren County.

Geographic area served: Warren, Washington, Northern Saratoga, Hamilton and Eastern Fulton Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness or severe visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Accessibility: Completely accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 7 full-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Low Vision Services, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers comprehensive vision screening for elderly people in the community.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers counseling/social work services, social casework, advocacy, outreach, visitation.

Employment: Refers for employment services.

Information and Referral: Offers public education programs on blindness and vision loss.

Low Vision: Maintains a monthly low vision clinic. Provides comprehensive vision screening for elderly people. Low vision specialist prescribes low vision devices.

Recreation: Offers community-based programs for elderly.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and orientation and mobility. Offers independent living services and community-based programs for elderly people.

Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

371 East Jericho Turnpike

Smithtown, NY 11787-2976

Tel: (800) 548-4337

(631) 930-9000

(631) 361-5192 (Fax)

www.guidedog.org

E-mail: info@guidedog.org

Wells B. Jones, CEO, Wells@guidedog.org

Bruce Benzler, Executive Officer for Program Services, bruce@guidedog.org

Ken Flint, Information and Technology Manager, Ken@guidedog.org

Phyllis Herrington, Consumer Outreach Coordinator, Phyllis@guidedog.org

Catherine McDougal, Office Manager,

CathyM@guidedog.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life of people who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind. Application packet requests information from an ophthalmologist regarding client's visual impairment.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Student residence for clients.

Staff: Personnel include training and kennel staff, office/administrative staff, additional volunteers and speakers bureau consisting of puppy walkers and graduates.

Fee structure: No fees for services.

Publications: The Guideway.

Additional information: Runs a Puppy Walker Volunteer Program in which volunteer families socialize puppies from 7 weeks to 12 months of age. Camp Dog Guide and guidance are provided by our puppy advisors and coordinator.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers tours/demonstrations to members of professional organizations such as teachers of visually impaired students, agency personnel, and orientation and mobility instructors.

Counseling: On-staff outreach coordinator counsels graduates regarding loss of dogs.

Dog Guide: Provides training in safe travel with a dog guide, including crossing streets and use of buses, subways, elevators and escalators. Students 55 and over receive same services. Offers 25-day (including weekends) in-residence program (Smithtown).

Aftercare at home site also provided.

Information and Referral: Provides videos regarding organization's dog guide services to disability services and orientation and mobility agencies throughout the nation.

Professional Training: Offers on-site apprentice training program for individuals hired by Foundation. Training given by qualified instructors from kennel and puppy department staffs. Training curriculum includes eye diseases, blindfold walks and blind etiquette and awareness.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Dog guide school**

611 Granite Springs Road
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Tel: (800) 942-0149

(914) 245-4024

(914) 245-1609 or (914) 962-1403 (Fax)

www.guidingeyes.org

E-mail: info@guidingeyes.org

William D. Badger, President and CEO,
lmiller@guidingeyes.org

Becky Barnes, Consumer Outreach Coordinator, (914)
243-2210, bbarnes@guiding-eyes.org

Bev Klayman, Manager of Admissions

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enrich the lives of blind and visually impaired men and women by providing them with the freedom to travel safely with the assistance of professionally trained Guiding Eyes dogs, thereby assuring greater independence and dignity.

Established: 1954.

County/District where located: Westchester County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Blind and visually impaired, some orientation and mobility skills.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Braille signage. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory facilities for students.

Clients served annually: 160.

Staff: 85 full-time, 16 part-time, 650 volunteers.

Fee structure: No fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Community Outreach Programs: Has a public education and speakers bureau.

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

Professional Training: Provides insurance training for staff volunteers.

Guild Home for Aged Blind**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Residential facility**

75 Stratton Street South
Yonkers, NY 10701

Tel: (914) 220-8500

(914) 963-7433 (Fax)

www.jgb.org

E-mail: info@jgb.org

Lanette Spalding, Manager of Admissions, (914)
220-8532, spaldingl@jgb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people who are blind or visually impaired, and who may have additional disabilities, achieve lives of dignity and independence.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health Services, Health/Medical to older persons.

Health/Medical: Offers comprehensive medical, nursing and rehabilitative services for long-term residents as well as persons requiring short-term rehabilitation.

Housing Services: Offers housing for elderly people with a broad range of vision loss.

Low Vision: Provides evaluation and treatment.

Provides special optical devices, such as extra-strength lenses, hand-held magnifiers, and small telescopes.

Helen Keller International (HKI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults (HKNC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Helen Keller Services for the Blind (HKSBS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Infant/preschool agency
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

57 Willoughby Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Tel: (718) 522-2122

(718) 935-9463 (Fax)

www.helenkeller.org

E-mail: info@helenkeller.org

John P. Lynch, Executive Director, jpl@helenkeller.org

Fred W. McPhilliamy, President

Michelle A. Spinelli, Director of Development,

michelle@helenkeller.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help individuals of all ages and degrees of blindness live independently within their own communities by providing an array of rehabilitation services.

Established: 1893.

County/District where located: Kings, Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Geographic area served: New York City and Long Island.

Eligibility requirements: Persons legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Residential Facilities: Operates a group home on Long Island for six of our clients who are blind and have multiple disabilities.

Budget: \$11,197,000.

Clients served annually: 2,000.

Staff: 169. Rehabilitation teachers, employment specialists, teachers of the visually impaired, teaching assistants, braillists, low vision specialists, social workers, community outreach specialists, administrators, and clerical staff.

Fee structure: All services are free to clients when State and Medicaid reimbursements can be applied.

Publications: Annual Report, Newsletter, Brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille and Reading Instruction, Computer Training, Counseling, Employment, Housing Services, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction, remedial literacy training, and instruction in how to use low vision devices.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Textbooks for students in grades K-12.

Computer Training: Provides assessment and training in the use of adaptive software for computers; keyboarding instruction when necessary. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers counseling in adjustment to blindness.

Early Intervention: Operates a center-based Early Intervention Program in Brooklyn for children, birth to three, who are blind and/or multi-handicapped.

Employment: Offers a full spectrum of employment services for adults, including vocational assessment, job readiness training, work experience internships, and job placement. Pre-vocational Training Program for Teens provides vocational assessment, job readiness training, and social support for teenagers on Long Island who are preparing for summer jobs, after-school jobs, and careers.

Housing Services: Maintains the Individualized Residential Alternative (IRA), a group home for six clients who are blind and have additional disabilities.

Information and Referral: Parent & Early Education Resource Center offers training, information, and social support for families of young children who are blind

and/or multi-handicapped. Based in Brooklyn, the Center's programs are available to families from New York City and Long Island.

Low Vision: Optometrists with expertise in low vision work with clients in our Low Vision Clinics to maximize residual vision through the use of specialized lenses, magnifiers, and low-glare lighting. Clinics are located in Brooklyn, Hempstead, and Huntington.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers instruction in safe travel using a cane.

Preschool: Preschool Vision Screening Program provides free, child-friendly vision screenings to approximately 25,000 children each year in Kings, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties. Screenings take place in preschools and Head Start Programs and are for visual disorders that will lead to permanent visual impairment if not detected and treated early in a child's life. Operates a preschool in Brooklyn for children, three to five, who are blind; many have additional disabilities. Open to students from Kings, Queens, Richmond, and New York Counties.

Recreation: Offers educational and recreational activities for adults, 55 and older, at senior centers in Brooklyn, Hempstead, and Huntington. Children's Saturday Program offers Long Island children, 8-14, the opportunity to participate in an array of recreational and educational activities facilitated by rehabilitation teachers. Focus is on building participants' self-esteem, self-confidence, and social skills. Holds Camp Helen Keller, a six-week summer day camp on Long Island for children, 4 to 15. Age-appropriate and fun activities are designed to improve the self-esteem, self-confidence, and socialization skills of the campers.

Rehabilitation: Helps clients maintain independence after becoming blind or visually impaired by training clients in the areas of safe travel, daily living skills (i.e., cooking and cleaning), communications, and personal care. Most training is done one-to-one in the client's home or workplace. Day Treatment Program offers educational and recreational services to individuals who are visually impaired and have additional disabilities.

LOCAL OFFICES

Hempstead: Helen Keller Services - Nassau County, One Helen Keller Way, Hempstead, NY 11550, info@helenkeller.org

Huntington: Helen Keller Services - Suffolk County, 40 New York Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743, info@helenkeller.org

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Port Washington: Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths & Adults, 141 Middle Neck Road, Port Washington, NY 11050, hkncinfo@hknc.org

Henkind Eye Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Montefiore Medical Center
3400 Bainbridge Avenue
Bronx, NY 10467
Tel: (718) 920-2020

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people to reach their vision potential.

County/District where located: Bronx County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 AM-4:30 PM, by appointment.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, ophthalmology resident, optometrist, social worker, optician.

Fee structure: Insurance, or sliding fee scale for uninsured.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Health/Medical: Offers general ophthalmological services.

Information and Referral: Refers to CBVH.

Library: Maintains small loaner library of large-print materials.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Provides low vision diagnostic and therapeutic examination for seniors.

Hospital Audiences, Inc. (HAI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

548 Broadway
Third Floor
New York, NY 10012
Tel: (212) 575-7676
(212) 575-7669 (Fax)
www.hospitalaudiences.org
E-mail: hai@hospaud.org

Michael Jon Spencer, Founder and Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access to the arts to culturally isolated New Yorkers.

Established: 1969.

Publications: Bi-annual newsletter; Arts Alive!; Live Arts Experiences: Their Impact on Health and Wellness; Outsider Artists of Hospital Audiences, Inc.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Describe! program provides blind or visually impaired theatergoers with live audiodescription at Broadway and Off-Broadway shows. At pre-arranged performances, a trained volunteer attends and transmits a description of the physical action on stage during pauses in the dialogue to audience members who are wearing a tiny receiver with one earpiece. HAI sometimes also provides subsidized tickets to visually impaired theatergoers.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in music, dance, visual arts, drama, video, animation and computer graphic arts. The workshops are taught by professional artists with expertise in working with special populations. The hands-on workshop experiences take place at sites throughout New York City and the surrounding region.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides teachers with techniques for practical hands-on arts-based projects that enhance the classroom teacher's curriculum. The program emphasizes working with special education teachers and students with disabilities through professional development sessions open to an entire school community, individual sessions with selected teachers and activities together with students and teachers in their classrooms. Led by professional artists, the program serves the needs of teachers in special education classrooms, specialized instructional environments and general education classrooms.

Hunter College of The City University of New York

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Postsecondary institution**

Department of Special Education, 909W
695 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021
Tel: (212) 772-4740
(212) 650-3207 (TDD/TTY)
(212) 650-3542 (Fax)
www.hunter.cuny.edu

Grace Ambrose Zaken, Project Coordinator RT/O&M
Programs, (212) 772-4741,
gambrose@hunter.cuny.edu
Rosanne K. Silberman, Professor, Department of
Special Education, rsilberm@hunter.cuny.edu
Ellen Trief, Associate Professor, (212) 772-4110,
etrief@hunter.cuny.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1870.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Eligibility requirements: Undergraduate G.P.A. 2.8 or higher.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Graduate (master's) programs for teachers of students who are blind or visually impaired, or who have severe/multiple impairments including deaf-blindness, rehabilitation teachers of blind or visually impaired individuals, and orientation and mobility instructors. Oversees Intensive Teacher Institute for certification of teachers of students who are blind and visually impaired and orientation and mobility specialists through both traditional and hybrid (classes on-line and on-site) program models.

Industries for the Blind of New York State

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Rehabilitation agency**

296 Washington Avenue Extension
Albany, NY 12203
Tel: (800) 421-9010
(518) 456-8671
(518) 456-3587 (Fax)
www.ibnys.org
E-mail: info@ibnys.org

Steven M. Ennis, President and Executive Director,
sennis@ibnys.org
Barbara K. Gerber, Director of Finance,
bgerber@ibnys.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in cooperation with affiliated members to serve New Yorkers who are blind and visually impaired by facilitating and creating employment opportunities.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Albany County.

Geographic area served: New York State.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to blind and visually impaired people.

Fee structure: 4 1/2% service fee paid by government customers.

Publications: Catalogs, sales literature, and www.ibnys.org website.

Additional information: Actively markets blind-made products and services to state agencies, political subdivisions, and public benefit corporations under provisions of the New York State finance law, working with seven qualified, nonprofit work centers for people who are blind and visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Facilitates employment of blind and visually impaired at member work centers. Sells products (office supplies, janitorial supplies, linen and textiles, latex gloves, safety items, film and flags) manufactured at work centers online. Sells on-site and off-site services including warehousing, mailing, call centers, and CD replication.

International Society on Metabolic Eye Disease

See U.S. National Organizations.

IN TOUCH Networks

See U.S. National Organizations.

Jewish Braille Institute of America (JBI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Jewish Guild for the Blind (JGB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Infant/preschool agency
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Radio reading station
- Rehabilitation agency
- Research organization

15 West 65th Street
New York, NY 10023

Tel: (212) 769-7800
(212) 769-6266 (Fax)

www.jgb.org

E-mail: info@jgb.org

Alan Morse, President/CEO, (212) 769-6215,
armorse@jgb.org

Goldie Dersh, VP, Behavioral Health, (212) 769-6345,
dershg@jgb.org

Wanda Figueroa-Kilroy, Executive VP, GuildNet, (212)
769-7853, figueroakilroyw@jgb.org

Barbara Litke, VP, Education and Rehabilitation, (212)
769-6212, Litke@jgb.org

Bruce Mastalinski, Executive VP, Guild Home for Aged
Blind, (914) 220-8501, MastalinskiB@jgb.org

Cathleen Wirts, Senior VP, (212) 769-6276,
cwirts@jgb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people who are blind or visually impaired, who may have additional disabilities, achieve lives of dignity and independence.

Established: 1914.

Geographic area served: New York State; Boston, MA metro area.

Eligibility requirements: Varies by program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Varies by program. General office hours are 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant; fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Operates the Guild Home for the Aged Blind and the Newman Center for Alzheimer's Care in Yonkers, New York.

Budget: \$175,000,000.

Staff: 800.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Health Services, Health/Medical, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Offers computer training at the Adaptive Technology Center. Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. All generally used office software.

Counseling: Has a mental health clinic.

Early Intervention: Maintains the Rifkin Family/Daughters of Israel Early Intervention Program, which offers a wide range of services and strategies to stimulate and enhance a child's crucial early development.

Education Services: Administers the Harriet and Robert Heilbrunn Guild School for students, aged 5 through 21, who are blind, visually impaired or deaf-blind with developmental disabilities.

Health/Medical: Offers an ADA-recognized diabetic education program, which includes self-management for people with vision loss. Maintains a diagnostic and treatment center.

Low Vision: Provides evaluation and treatment. Provides special optical devices, such as extra-strength lenses, hand-held magnifiers and small telescopes.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Operates the Elizabeth L. Newman Preschool, which provides daily educational services in small group settings to children, aged 15 months to 3 years.

Professional Training: SightCare educates and trains those who care for persons with vision loss.

Reading Services: Operates InTouch Networks, a radio reading network that broadcasts 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Content includes materials from national newspapers and magazines, health-related topics, and other general interest material. InTouch is also available via the Internet through The Guild's website at www.jgb.org.

Rehabilitation: Offers services and programs providing rehabilitation, activities of daily living, adaptive physical education, counseling and vocational assessment.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Albany: 2 Clara Barton Drive, Albany, NY 12208
Boston: Greater Boston Aid to the Blind, 1980 Centre Street, PO Box 218, Boston, MA 02132, Barbara Litke
Buffalo: JGB, 1170 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14209
Yonkers: Guild Home for Aged Blind, 75 Stratton Street, Yonkers, NY 10701

Lavelle School for the Blind (LSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

3830 Paulding Avenue
 Bronx, NY 10469
 Tel: (718) 882-1212
 (718) 882-0005 (Fax)
www.lavelleschool.org

Frank Simpson, Superintendent
 Eleanor Behringer, Lower School Principal
 Lorrie Nanry, Preschool Principal
 Diane Tucker, Upper School Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide special education and habilitation services to students who are legally blind with additional disabilities so they may achieve full participation in all aspects of community life.

Established: 1904.

County/District where located: Bronx County.

Geographic area served: The five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, Westchester County and Rockland County.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired with additional disabilities for school age 5-21 year program. Preschool students 3-5 years include children with visual impairments, children with other disabilities, and children with no disabilities.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities throughout school. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 165.

Staff: 123. 24 classroom teachers, 34 teaching assistants, 10 teacher aides, 4 job coaches, 3 O&M instructors, 3 social workers, 7 speech therapists, 4 physical therapists, 5 occupational therapists, 1 nurse, 1 transition specialist, 2 APE, 1 music, 1 art, 4 program administrators, 19 support, security, and maintenance staff.

Fee structure: Students with disabilities are funded by the New York State Education Department.

Non-disabled preschool students who are integrated into the preschool classrooms are funded by Universal Pre-K Funds and private fees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer training for communication skills as well as future careers integrated into classrooms and specialized classes for students. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Education Services: Follows New York State Education Department Standards using alternate assessment methods.

Employment: All students receive transition services that include community-based supported employment jobs in summer and during the school year.

Library: Maintains a resource center with student and teacher materials/equipment for use at the school.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Preschool classrooms vary in size from 6 to 15 students depending on each student's IEP. Focus on self awareness, communication skills, preliteracy skills, and socialization. All classrooms have computers for literacy skills as well as recreation use.

Professional Training: Professional development includes 4 days per year of in-service training and tuition reimbursement for work related coursework leading to certification by the NYS Education Department.

Recreation: Adaptive physical education, music, art, and community trips for all students. Referrals by school social workers to afterschool and weekend recreation programs as well as summer camps.

Lighthouse International

See U.S. National Organizations.

Lighthouse International: New York Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Services (Poughkeepsie)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

110 Main Street
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-3083
 Tel: (800) 829-0500
 (845) 473-2660
 (845) 473-7350 (Fax)
www.lighthouse.org
 E-mail: visionrehab@lighthouse.org
 Rosemary Duda, CSW, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Dutchess County.

Geographic area served: Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, Putnam, and Sullivan Counties.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Functional vision impairment.

Fee structure: Fee for all services, government funding, third-party payment, and insurance reimbursement for some programs. Discounted fees available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to employees, school districts, physicians, etc.

Counseling: Offers psychotherapy; individual, group, and family counseling; case management; crisis intervention; support groups; and referral to community services.

Employment: Offers placement and pre-vocational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides vision rehabilitation, including independent living skills, orientation and mobility, adjustment counseling, psychotherapy, and low vision services.

Lighthouse International: New York Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Services (White Plains)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

170 Hamilton Avenue

White Plains, NY 10601-1715

Tel: (888) 222-9320

(914) 683-7500

(212) 821-9713 (TDD/TTY)

(914) 686-5866 (Fax)

www.lighthouse.org

E-mail: visionrehab@lighthouse.org

William F. O'Connell, Director, Low Vision Services,
woconnell@lighthouse.org

Janice O'Connor, Director of Placement Services,
joconnor@lighthouse.org

Linda Schulz, Director, Independent Living Services,
lschulz@lighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Westchester County.

Geographic area served: Fee for all services, government funding, third-party payment, and insurance reimbursement for some programs. Discounted fees available.

Eligibility requirements: Functional vision impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM (direct services), 10:00 AM-3:00 PM (Lighthouse store).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Products for independent living. For sale online and on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to local senior groups and organizations.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to employers and school districts.

Counseling: Offers psychotherapy; individual, group, and family counseling; case management; crisis intervention; support groups; and referral to low vision and community services.

Early Intervention: Offers community-based instruction for children ages 0-3, families, caregivers, and allied professionals.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides consultation, support groups, and education to parents.

Rehabilitation: Offers vision rehabilitation services, including independent living skills, orientation and mobility, adjustment counseling, psychotherapy, and low vision services.

Long Island Talking Book Library, Outreach Services, Suffolk Cooperative Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

627 North Sunrise Service Road

P.O. Box 9000

Bellport, NY 11713-9000

Tel: (631) 286-1600

(631) 286-4546 (TDD/TTY)

(631) 286-1647 (Fax)

www.litbl.org

E-mail: lbph@suffolk.lib.ny.us

Valerie Lewis, Administrator of Outreach

Services/Librarian, vlewis@suffolk.lib.ny.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide talking books, machines, assistive technology demonstrations, and related services to Long Island residents.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Geographic area served: Long Island, New York.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical or visual disabilities who cannot hold, handle, or see well enough to use regular print books.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is accessible to people with disabilities. Devices available for people with visual and hearing impairments.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Fast Forward (quarterly newsletter) and many fact sheets.

Additional information: Subregional library for the blind and physically handicapped.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Available to public libraries on Long Island.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral relating to vision services on Long Island.

Library: Provides talking books for blind and physically disabled persons.

March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation

See U.S. National Organizations.

Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Nassau Community College Library**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Alternate media producer**

One Education Drive
Garden City, NY 11530

Tel: (516) 572-7883
(516) 572-0690 (Fax)

www.sunynassau.edu

E-mail: friedma@sunynassau.edu

Arthur L. Friedman, Coordinator, Round Pages
Program, friedma@sunynassau.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To produce audiocassettes of materials needed for academic study on demand.

Established: 1959.

County/District where located: Nassau County.

Geographic area served: Nassau County.

Eligibility requirements: Must be enrolled Nassau Community College student.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Public funds, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks and other printed materials.

Library: Audiobooks of textbooks and other materials needed for academic study provided to students on demand.

National Association for Visually Handicapped (NAVH)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Braille Association (NBA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Marfan Foundation (NMF)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Self-Help Clearinghouse

See U.S. National Organizations.

New York City Industries for the Blind (NYCIB)**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Rehabilitation agency**

3611 14th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11218-3750

Tel: (877) 336-9242

(718) 854-7300

(718) 854-2700 (Fax)

www.nycib.org

Richard C. Bland, President and CEO,
nycibceo@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment and vocational training opportunities for legally blind men and women in the greater New York City area.

Established: 1995.

County/District where located: Kings County.

Geographic area served: Metropolitan New York.

Eligibility requirements: Motivated individuals who want or need to work.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:45 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: Over 125 employees.

Publications: Catalog of products manufactured. Brochure describing bulk-mailing, assembly, fulfillment, and packaging services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessments for vocational training/employment opportunities.

Employment: Provides training and full-time employment in manufacturing, office, and service positions. Sells manufactured products such as mops, brooms, brushes, sheets, towels, blankets, note pad binders, and military clothing. See website for more info. (www.nycib.org).

New York City Public Schools, District 75: Educational Vision Services**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Educational agency**

400 First Avenue
New York, NY 10010

Tel: (917) 256-4259

(917) 256-4230 (Fax)

Laurence Gardner, Director, Educational Vision Services, lgardne@nycboe.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote challenging educational experiences, with equity of opportunity and access, that will enable all students, commensurate with their abilities to become productive members of a multicultural society. To offer programs designed for students who, because of vision impairment, learn with the use of assistive materials and adaptive approaches.

County/District where located: New York County.

Geographic area served: New York City.

Eligibility requirements: Students in School District 75, New York City Public Schools, with visual acuity no greater than 20/70 in better eye with best correction or limitations in visual acuity and visual field that adversely affect student performance.

Ages served: 8 and above.

Hours of operation: New York City school day.

Accessibility: Accessibility compliance. Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts formal evaluation by Hearing Handicapped/Visually Impaired (HHVI), a committee on special education.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Participates in District 75 literacy program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides counseling by school guidance counselors, school social workers, and/or school psychologists in compliance with student individualized education programs.

Employment: Participates in after-school work program and summer youth employment program.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides parent advocacy and support for parents of visually impaired children through Educational Vision Services Parent Advocates (EVSPA).

Professional Training: Participates in District 75 staff development programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides vision-related services and specialized vision education classes.

New York Eye and Ear Infirmary

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

310 East 14th Street
New York, NY 10003
Tel: (212) 979-4000
www.nyee.edu/

Hyacinth Johnson, Nursing Care Coordinator,
hjohnson@nyee.edu
Suzanne Schudel, Low Vision Assistant/Ophthalmic Technologist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide high-quality patient care, community outreach, graduate and continuing medical education and scientific research.

Established: 1820.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM; Sat. 8:30 AM-10:30 AM.

Fee structure: \$97.36 for each general clinic visit. Additional fees may be necessary when further tests and treatments are required.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Sponsors an Ophthalmic Technology and Orthoptic School and offers a resident training program, and weekly clinical conferences on strabismus and pediatric cases.

New York Institute for Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency ■ School for the blind

999 Pelham Parkway
Bronx, NY 10469
Tel: (718) 519-7000
(718) 519-6196 (TDD/TTY)
(718) 231-9314 (Fax)
www.nyise.org
E-mail: kbenisatto@nyise.org

Eugene McMahon, Ed.D., Executive Director
Thomas Burgett, Ph.D., Assistant Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality education, care, training, rehabilitation, and other related services to children with blindness or visual impairments, to children who are learning or emotionally disabled and to pre-schoolers who are developmentally delayed.

Established: 1831.

County/District where located: Bronx County.

Geographic area served: Five Boroughs and surrounding areas of New York.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Residential Facilities: Five-day residential only.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 300.

Publications: Facility brochure.

Additional information: Founded in 1831 as The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind. In 1986 the name changed to its current name to better reflect the expanded focus and commitment to children with a variety of disabilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Offers individually designed academic and modified academic programs for children with blindness and visual impairments, learning and emotional disabilities and pre-schoolers with developmental delays.

New York Public Library: Mid-Manhattan Library, Accessibility Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

455 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 340-0843
www.nypl.org/branch/central_units/mm/midman.html
Ed Fursa, Librarian, efursa@nypl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To link patrons with visual, hearing, learning, and mobility impairments to the full range of the New York Public Library's materials and services.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Hours of operation: All services by appointment so that individualized assistance may be provided.

Accessibility: Located on wheelchair-accessible second floor. Special equipment for blind and visually impaired persons: magnifiers; braillewriter and audio playback equipment; Kurzweil Personal Reader with English, Spanish, and French language capabilities; JAWS for Windows, Open Book software, Large-Print DOS; closed-circuit televisions.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Loans braille books, talking books, books on record and cassette, and talking book machines for free.

New York Resource Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

New York State School for the Blind
2A Richmond Avenue
Batavia, NY 14020
Tel: (585) 343-5384
(585) 344-7026 (Fax)
www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/nyssb/home.html
Emily Leyenberger, Contact

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides materials in alternate formats to school districts through the New York State Resource Center.

New York State Department of Health: Early Intervention Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 208
Albany, NY 12237-0618
Tel: (518) 473-7016
(518) 473-8673 (Fax)
www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/eip/index.htm
E-mail: eip@health.state.ny.us
Donna Noyes, Director, dmn02@health.state.ny.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To identify and evaluate as early as possible those infants and toddlers whose healthy development is compromised and provide for appropriate intervention to improve child and family development.
Established: 1992.

County/District where located: Albany County.

Geographic area served: New York State.

Eligibility requirements: Birth-3 years old with developmental delay or diagnosed physical or mental condition that has high probability of resulting in developmental delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Fee structure: No cost to parents.

Additional information: Administered locally by municipal early intervention official.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for New York's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Provides therapeutic and support services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

New York State Education Department: Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State educational services

One Commerce Plaza
Room 1606
Albany, NY 12234
Tel: (518) 474-2714
(518) 474-8802 (Fax)
www.vesid.nysed.gov/
E-mail: vesidadm@mail.nysed.gov

Rebecca H. Cort, Deputy Commissioner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote educational equity and excellence for students with disabilities, assure continuity between the child and adult services systems, and provide vocational rehabilitation and independent living services.

Geographic area served: New York.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Early Intervention: Administers 15 Childhood Direction Centers to find programs and services for disabled children, ages birth to five.

Education Services: Oversees special education services for students in public and private schools.

Employment: Offers service programs for employment, including vocational assessment, counseling, transition from school to work, job training and placement, job follow-up. Monitors Long Term Sheltered Employment programs.

Rehabilitation: Administers 38 Independent Living Centers (private, community-based, non-residential).

New York State Office for the Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

New York State Plaza
Agency Building Two
Albany, NY 12223

Tel: (800) 342-9871 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Senior Citizens Hot Line, Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM)
(518) 474-5731

(518) 474-1398 (Fax)

www.aging.state.ny.us/

Neal Lane, Acting Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as an advocate for New Yorkers 60 and older.

Established: 1961.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Promotes public awareness of resources available for the aging.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

New York State Office of Children and Family Services: Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State rehabilitation services

52 Washington Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Tel: (518) 474-6812 (For more information on NYS Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped visit our website:)

(518) 474-7501 (TDD/TTY)

(518) 486-5819 (Fax)

www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/cbvh

E-mail: cbvh@dfa.state.ny.us

Thomas A. Robertson, Associate Commissioner,
thomas.robertson@dfa.state.ny.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance employability, maximize independence, and assist in the development of the capacities and strengths of persons who are legally blind.

Established: 1913.

County/District where located: Rensselaer County.

Geographic area served: New York State.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, resident of New York State.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Fee structure: Combination of individual fee-based services and outcome-based contracts.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Albany: 155 Washington Avenue, Third Floor, Albany, NY 12210-2329

Buffalo: 295 Main Street, Room 1000, Buffalo, NY 14203

Hempstead: 175 Fulton Avenue, Room 300, Hempstead, NY 11550

New York: 163 West 125th Street, Room 1315, New York, NY 10027

New York: 20 Exchange Place, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10005

Syracuse: The Atrium, 2 Clinton Square, Suite 105, Syracuse, NY 12302

White Plains: 445 Hamilton Avenue, 5th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

New York State Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

10 Colvin Avenue
Albany, NY 11206

Tel: (518) 438-2020

(518) 438-3008 (Fax)

www.nysos.com

E-mail: nysos2020@aol.com

Robin Pellegrino, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Albany.

New York State Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

119 Washington Avenue, 2nd Floor

Albany, NY 12210

Tel: (800) 342-9836

(518) 449-7300

(518) 432-5902 (Fax)

www.nysoa.org/

E-mail: nysoa2020@aol.com

Jan Dorman, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the vision care and health of the public and to promote the art and science of the profession of optometry.

Established: 1985.

New York State School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

2A Richmond Avenue

Batavia, NY 14020

Tel: (877) 697-7382

(585) 343-5384

(585) 344-5557 (Fax)

www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/nyssb/home.html

E-mail: nyssb@mail.nysed.gov

Jennifer S. Ervin, Superintendent, Administration,
jervin@mail.nysed.gov

Laraine Caton, Department Head, Outreach Programs

Emily Leyenberger, New York State Resource Center

Dan Spengler, Social Worker, Social Work Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a foundation of learning that will enable each student to become an independent, self-respecting and contributing adult in a diverse society by providing a learning environment that puts achievement and independence within the reach of each student.

Established: 1968.

County/District where located: Genesee County.

Geographic area served: New York.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, school-age (5-21), New York resident, additional disability.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-2:00 PM (school).

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Accommodates students with educational needs requiring year-round, (ICF) 7-day residential status. Day programs and 5-day residential programs available.

Staff: Instructors, instructional assistants, clinical and medical staff, childcare staff.

Publications: Campus News (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides specialized instructional materials manufactured by the American Printing House for the Blind to teachers and other service providers to enable them to better serve their students.

Assessment: Conducts transdisciplinary evaluation for prospective students.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers literacy programs for current students.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides services and one-day workshops on weekends for students from public schools.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation and psychological testing and offers individual and group counseling. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers individualized educational programs designed to meet students' needs at varying developmental levels. Includes pre-vocational/skill training, activities of daily living, leisure time activities, orientation and mobility, academics.

Health/Medical: Offers general medical services, physical, speech, occupational therapies. Contracts and refers for other health services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Offers social work services.

Professional Training: Provides training for staff.

Recreation: Recreational therapists develop individual/group activities including after-school programs focusing on IEP skill development.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, gesticulation, handwriting, listening skills, Optacon, typing, video magnifier, home management, orientation and mobility, special education, and sensory training.

New York State Talking Book and Braille Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

Cultural Education Center

Empire State Plaza

Albany, NY 12230

Tel: (800) 342-3688 (Toll-free)

(518) 474-5935

(518) 474-7121 (TDD/TTY)

(518) 474-5786 (Fax)

www.nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl/index/html

E-mail: tbbl@mail.nysed.gov

Jane Somers, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide recorded and braille books and playback equipment to all eligible upstate New Yorkers who are physically and visually handicapped.

Established: 1896.

Geographic area served: New York State (except New York City and Long Island).

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Limited accessibility.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

New York State TR Aid Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

NYS Office of Advocate for Persons with Disabilities

One Empire State Plaza

Suite 1001

Albany, NY 12223-1150

Tel: (800) 522-4369 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state.)

(518) 474-2825 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(518) 473-6005 (Fax)

www.oapwd.org

E-mail: traid@oapwd.org

Lisa Rosano-Kaczowski, Project Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Fosters development of state and federal policies and programs to enhance availability of assistive technology.

Assistive Products: Operates and maintains the TR AID-IN Equipment Exchange program, which is a service for individuals who are looking to sell, donate or obtain used assistive devices for people with disabilities.

Financial Assistance: Provides partial funding to 13 regional TR AID centers (RTCs) which have equipment loan lending libraries for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

Information and Referral: Provides information, training, technical assistance and advocacy on how to obtain and use assistive technology services and devices.

New York Times Large Type Weekly

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1199 Harlem Road

Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Tel: (716) 821-5555

(716) 821-0032 (Fax)

www.nfradioreading.org

Robert Sikorski, President, bobsikorski@cs.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.

County/District where located: Erie County.

Geographic area served: Western New York, southern Ontario, Canada.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts material from 75 magazines a week, current best sellers, supermarket ads, television listings, comics, obituaries, election ballots, and topics of local interest and topics of special interest to people who are blind. Publication include Buffalo News, USA Today, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Toronto Star, and 57 community newspapers.

North Country Association for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

301 Main Street

Third Floor

Lake Placid, NY 12946

Tel: (518) 523-1950

(518) 523-2337 (Fax)

E-mail: NCAVI2001@yahoo.com

Karen G. Mergenthaler, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer free professional assistance and support, as well as to promote the physical and mental well-being of the legally blind and visually impaired.

Geographic area served: Clinton, Franklin, Essex, and St. Lawrence Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Staff: 7 full time; 1 part time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille classes.

Counseling: Home visits and counseling by the agency or by referral to another organization.

Employment: Offers vocational training.

Low Vision: Offers low vision services and referrals and follow-up after two months. Low vision devices can be ordered through the agency.

Preschool: Offers rehabilitation teaching and social casework for infants to school-age children.

Rehabilitation: Offers home-based and community-based training; homemaking skills, kitchen management; activities of daily living for older persons.

Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

301 Washington Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Tel: (518) 463-1211

(518) 463-3585 (Fax)

www.naba-vision.org

E-mail: bberberich@naba-vision.org

Barry T. Berberich, Executive Director,

bberberich@naba-vision.org

Ann Gallagher, Co-Director of Community Services

and Social Worker, agallagher@naba-vision.org

Thomas Lomma, Senior Vocational Coordinator,

tlomma@naba-vision.org

Kathryn Miklowitz, Outreach Specialist

Maureen Strainge, Co-Director of Community Services,

mstrainge@naba-vision.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist persons who are blind or visually impaired to achieve independence and growth.

Established: 1908.

County/District where located: Albany County.

Geographic area served: Capital region of New York State.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, severely visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is accessible.

Staff: 82 staff members including 66 full-time and 16 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Fees charged for individuals not covered by government funding programs. Limited funding available for non-legally blind consumers.

Publications: Brighter Horizons (newsletter), NABA Vision (newsletter).

Additional information: NABA is a comprehensive rehabilitation agency providing a full range of services to people of all ages who are legally blind or experiencing significant vision loss.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of In-Home Services to older persons.

Assessment: Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation System (CVES) available. Provides evaluation of independent living skills.

Assistive Products: Sells closed-circuit televisions, adaptive devices and appliances.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Letters, menus, legal documents, birthday and holiday cards, small manuals and booklets.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach/informational presentations to community groups.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers on-site technical assistance on contract basis.

Counseling: Provides case management, social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation, referral to community services.

Early Intervention: KidSight preschool vision screening available.

Employment: Offers vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, job retraining, vocational placement, follow-up service. Provides facility-based employment.

In-Home Services: Provides in-home vision-related rehabilitation services and vision services for seniors.

Information and Referral: Provides general information on blindness/visual impairment and refers to community resources.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement and in-service training programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides remedial education, sensory training, and instruction in personal management, handwriting, listening skills, typing, and home management in client's home and community.

Northeast Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

102 Sharron Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Tel: (518) 563-9058 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(518) 563-0292 (Fax)
www.slic.com/ncci/
Alan Beshard, Coordinator, alanbeshard@aol.com

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Press-Republican and other local publications.

Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

79 Middleville Road
Northport, NY 11768
Tel: (631) 261-4400
(631) 266-6056 (Fax)
www.va.gov/sta/guide/facility.asp?ID=101
Allen H. Cohen, Chief, Optometry Service,
cohen.allen@northport.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the health of the veteran population by providing primary care, specialty care, extended care and related social support services in an integrated healthcare delivery system.

Established: 1987.

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Eligibility requirements: Veterans with honorable discharge.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully handicap accessible.
Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Government grants.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Library
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

1170 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14209-0398
Tel: (716) 882-1025
(716) 882-5577 (Fax)
www.olmstedcenter.org/home.asp
E-mail: info@olmstedcenter.org
Ronald S. Maier, President, Administration,
rmaier@olmstedcenter.org
Milissa Acquard, CFO, macquard@olmstedcenter.org
Renee DiFlavio, VP, Education and Employment, (716)
882-5690, rdiflavio@statlercenter.org
Jon Helmin, Manager, Human Resources,
jhelmin@olmstedcenter.org
Heather Telford, VP, Rehabilitation Services,
Rehabilitation Services Department,
htelford@olmstedcenter.org
Betty Wagner, Customer Information Specialist,
Rehabilitation Services
Mark Wiecek, Director Manufacturing Services,
mwiecek@olmstedcenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the social, educational, vocational, recreational and economic status of all persons who are blind and visually impaired and their families while pursuing the goals of independence, dignity, self-worth, and highest levels of personal functioning.

Established: 1907.

County/District where located: Erie County.

Geographic area served: 8 counties of western New York.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
(variable for client needs).

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: The SEE program runs in the summer for ages 16-21. This includes classroom time, upper level work experience and residence on local college campus.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, In-Home Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Distributes adaptive nonoptical devices (braille, large print, talking equipment, books, games). Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Operates in-house agency-wide outreach program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Day care services available for blind or visually impaired individuals of several age groups.

Early Intervention: Offers VIP program for children from birth to 5 years, who are at risk educationally due to vision impairment.

Employment: Job readiness and placement services offered through the Rehab department, Training and placement services in the hospitality field all over the United States through affiliated National Statler Center for Careers in Hospitality Service.

In-Home Services: Provides extensive senior services to residents of Erie County age 60 or over, including nursing, home assessment, outreach, information and referral.

Information and Referral: Provides information about numerous local services for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Operates a visually impaired infant and preschool program.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching, instruction and accommodation in childhood education, vocational training and retraining.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Amherst: 700 Sweethome Road, Amherst, NY 14226, vipatolmsted@aol.com

Onondaga Braillists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

P.O. Box 15326
Syracuse, NY 13215
Tel: (315) 475-6407

Jean Henderson, Member

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe printed material into braille.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Onondaga County.

Geographic area served: Canada and United States.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: Foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Staff: All-volunteer staff.

Fee structure: Materials charge only.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Recreational, career/vocational, religious, general materials.

Prevent Blindness Tri-State

See Connecticut.

Queens Borough Public Library: Special Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

89-11 Merrick Boulevard

Jamaica, NY 11432

Tel: (718) 990-0746

(718) 990-0809 (TDD/TTY)

(718) 291-8936 (Fax)

www.queenslibrary.org

Thomas W. Galante, Interim Library Director, (718) 990-0794

Eileen Gellman, Community Assoc. Special Services, (718) 990-0853, (718) 990-5162 (Fax),
egellman@queenslibrary.org

Sonia Thompson, Coordinator of Adult and Special Services, (718) 990-8549,
sthompson@queenslibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality services, resources, and lifelong learning opportunities through books and other formats to meet the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs and interests of its diverse and changing population.

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Queens.

Geographic area served: Queens County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to those with mobility impairments.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Offers special equipment, including Kurzweil Personal Reader, VTEK, Perkins braille, and telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD). Provides books in large print and recorded materials for people who are visually impaired and learning disabled.

Radio Vision-Ramapo Catskill Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

619 Route 17M

Middletown, NY 10940-4395

Tel: (845) 343-1131

(845) 343-1205 (Fax)

www.rcls.org

Dan Hulse, Program Director, Radio Vision,
dan@rcls.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a closed-circuit radio reading service for blind, visually impaired, and print-handicapped individuals.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: Orange, Sullivan, Ulster, Dutchess Counties, parts of Columbia and Green Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Medical certification explaining reason individual cannot use regular printed material.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Connects with In Touch Networks (NYC) Mon.-Fri. 9:00 PM-9:00 AM and on Saturday and Sunday all day.

Accessibility: ADA-compliant.

Staff: Staff of one.

Publications: Outreach (bi-annual newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Assistive Products: Does simple repairs and troubleshooting of talking book cassette players.

Information and Referral: Provides information on services and agencies available to the elderly and disabled.

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours a day throughout the mid-Hudson region over the subchannels of two local FM radio stations. Publications read include Times Herald-Record, Daily Freeman, Sullivan County Democrat, The Sentinel, Orange County Post, Independent Republican.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: New York Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

545 Fifth Avenue

Suite 1005

New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 557-5720

www.rfbd.org

Diane Crupain, Executive Director, dcrupain@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational materials, such as textbooks and reference materials, to people who cannot effectively read standard print.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability, or other physical disability, which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, reference materials.

Library: Maintains an educational library with over 80,000 taped textbooks, reference and professional materials.

Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Resource Center for Independent Living (RCIL)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

401-409 Columbia Street

Utica, NY 13503-0210

Tel: (315) 797-4642

(315) 797-5837 (TDD/TTY)

(315) 797-4747 (Fax)

www.rcil.com/

E-mail: rcil@rcil.com

Burt Danowitz, Executive Director,
b.danowitz@rcil.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the individual services and systemic changes and programs which support the rights and integration of people with disabilities.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Oneida County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Provides systemic and individual advocacy on issues such as health care, the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Employment: Assists people with disabilities in finding and maintaining employment.

Information and Referral: Provides information on accessible designs, inclusive education, financial benefits advisement, support groups, peer counseling, as well as information and referral to other appropriate sources.

Rehabilitation: Provides access to computer-based technology in the areas of vocation, daily living, recreation and education to persons of all ages, regardless of nature or degree of disability. Provides services for adults with disabilities to enable them to remain living at home, thus preventing premature institutionalization.

Sisterhood Temple Israel of Jamaica

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

188th Street and Grand Central Parkway

Holliswood, NY 11423

Tel: (718) 776-4400

(718) 740-8795 (Fax)

Gertrude Siwoff, Transcriber

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Queens County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Southern Tier Association for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

719 Lake Street

Elmira, NY 14901

Tel: (800) 548-0440

(607) 734-1554

(607) 734-9467 (Fax)

E-mail: stavftvi@stny.rr.com

Stephan K. Connors, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower individuals with vision impairment to be inclusive members of the community by promoting related services, striving to meet individual rehabilitative needs, and by creating public awareness of these services and related efforts.

Established: 1930.

County/District where located: Chemung County.

Geographic area served: Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired through legally blind.

Ages served: 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Budget: \$3,000,000.

Clients served annually: 120.

Staff: 5. RT, O&M, LV trainer, RTA, and intake worker.

Fee structure: Most services are covered by program funding or Medicare.

Publications: Perspectives (bi-annual newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Counseling, Employment, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Translates to braille from Word and WordPerfect documents.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers in-service program/education and outreach.

Counseling: Offers public education and in-service training, peer support groups.

Employment: Provides referrals to CBVH & VESID.

Low Vision: Provides clinical and in-home follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility, evaluation and training.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching, evaluation and training services.

Spencerport Lions Braille Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

766 Lawrence Road

Hilton, NY 14468

Tel: (585) 964-7107

Keitha Martin, Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide literature or textbooks in a brailled format for groups or individuals.

County/District where located: Monroe County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Literature, textbooks.

State University of New York: College of Optometry, Low Vision Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

33 West 42nd Street

New York, NY 10036

Tel: (212) 780-5180

(212) 780-5186

(212) 780-4994 (Fax)

www.visionrehab.net

Christy A. Sell, Chief, Vision Rehabilitation Services, (212) 780-5040

Monika Fuller, Clinic Manager, Vision Rehabilitation Services, (212) 780-4964

Matthew Platerote, Assistant Director of Continuing Professional Education Programs

Elaine Wells, Library Director, wells@sunyopt.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide state-of-the-art education in the theory and practice of optometry, and eye/vision patient care in accessible health facilities. To promote through organized research and other scholarly activities the generation and dissemination of knowledge in the vision and clinical sciences. To serve as a state, national, and international resource on clinical, teaching, and research issues.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, 1:00 PM-5:00 PM, evenings by appointment.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: Comprehensive clinical services, many Diplomates of American Academy of Optometry on staff.

Fee structure: Medicaid, Medicare, CBVH, most private insurance/HMOs accepted.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts complete optometric and ophthalmologic evaluation, low vision assessment, head trauma assessment, visual assessment for infants, and special needs assessment.

Assistive Products: Distributes optical devices, low vision devices. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts vision screenings and lectures in the community and offers education programs.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to New York City Board of Education, CBVH, and other rehabilitation professionals and low vision specialists.

Counseling: Staff social workers available.

Early Intervention: Offers vision services for infants and children with special needs, including early intervention assessment and consultation with other professionals.

Health/Medical: Performs eye health evaluation and management of all eye conditions.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to community resources.

Library: Maintains vision science library for professionals and patients desiring access to holdings relevant to vision and eye conditions. Assistance available for visually impaired persons.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Provides low vision services for older adults with disabilities.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training by independent contractors or by referral to appropriate agencies.

Professional Training: Offers professional training programs to optometrists, nurses, and other rehabilitation professionals. Offers ongoing programs and by request.

Teachers College, Columbia University: Department of Health and Behavior Studies

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Program for Educators of Learners with Blindness & Visual Impairments

525 West 120th Street, Box 223

New York, NY 10027

Tel: (212) 678-3878

(212) 678-4034 (Fax)

www.tc.columbia.edu

E-mail: stolarsk@tc.columbia.edu

Virginia S. Stolarski, Coordinator, Program for Educators of Learners with Blindness and Visual Impairments, stolarsk@tc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Buildings are open with proper identification from 6:00 AM-midnight. Business Hours: 9:00 AM-6:00 PM. Classes: Mon.-Sat. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Students with and without disabilities may live in the campus dormitories.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Master's and doctoral degree programs for educators of learners with blindness and visual impairments.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency
- Social service organization

500 Greenwich Street

Third Floor

New York, NY 10013-1354

Tel: (888) 245-8333

(212) 625-1616

(212) 219-4078 (Fax)

www.visionsvcb.org

E-mail: info@visionsvcb.org

Nancy D. Miller, Executive Director/CEO,

nmiller@visionsvcb.org

Diane S. Weiss, Director of Rehabilitation,

dweiss@visionsvcb.org

Natalia S. Young, Controller/CIL Publications

Manager, nsy@visionsvcb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the independence of people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired.

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: New York County.

Geographic area served: Primarily New York City and Tri-state metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Totally blind or legally blind children, teens, adults, and elders. Persons who are blind or visually impaired with multiple disabilities of all ages and their family members.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Main office, Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Selis Manor, Mon-Thurs. 9:00 AM-8:00 PM and Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM; Vacation Camp for the Blind, summer season and fall, winter, spring weekends.

Rehabilitation services: Monday through Saturday.

Accessibility: Rehabilitation lessons provided in home and community. Camp, Selis Manor and office training center fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Overnight respite care in camp facility on selected weekends. Residential respite summer sessions for qualified blind multi-disabled (MRDD) adults living with a caregiver. Overnight camp and rehabilitation services for teens, adults, elders, and families with blind children.

Budget: \$3,400,000.

Clients served annually: 2500.

Staff: 41 full-time/90 seasonal. 41 full-time professional and paraprofessional multicultural, multilingual staff

in residential camp, rehabilitation services, outreach, I&R, social work, recreation, and management. 300 volunteers annually.

Fee structure: No fee for rehabilitation services and Selis Manor community center classes, counseling and groups. Voluntary contribution for overnight camp programs.

Publications: Self-help audiobooks for blind and visually impaired adults and lesson plans/textbook materials for professionals. Publications teach sensory development, basic indoor mobility, and personal management. Instructional textbooks with structured tasks and behavioral objectives in rehabilitation teaching and orientation and mobility.

Additional information: VISIONS provides outreach, information and service in low income, ethnic minority communities and in buildings with concentrations of frail, low income elders throughout New York City.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Counseling, Employment, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Intake and referral.

Audiodescription: Center for Independent Living (CIL) publications—audiotapes cover indoor mobility, personal management and sensory development.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides educational forums in communities with populations at risk for vision loss such as ethnic minorities or low-income groups. Provides group programs and social services in 50 neighborhood senior centers (Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx, Manhattan, Westchester) to promote integration of elders who are visually impaired into community life. Distributes self-study audio books for learning daily living skills.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training to staff in senior centers and senior housing to identify and better serve elders who are blind or visually impaired. Provides training to staff in adult homes, group homes, and nursing homes. Provides consultations to other agencies for vision rehabilitation services.

Counseling: Offers general social services including short-term counseling, information, referral and direct services.

Employment: Counselor in training, pre-employment and pre-vocational project. Provides summer employment for people who are blind, visually impaired, or disabled. Assists with finding jobs for legally blind teens, adults and seniors.

Information and Referral: Offers public education forums and group education borough-wide and vision screening. Offers New York State call center for information on products and services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision services as part of organization's rehabilitation services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers family rehabilitation services for parents with blind multihandicapped children at camp.

Professional Training: Provides publications in rehabilitation teaching and orientation and mobility. Provides staff training for working with legally blind and visually impaired seniors.

Recreation: Operates Vacation Camp for the Blind near Spring Valley, New York, in Rockland County. Offers 5 summer sessions and special winter weekends and a full range of recreational and social activities with adapted facilities. VISIONS at Selis Manor offers adapted recreation classes for legally blind adults and seniors.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in personal management, communications, housekeeping, and occupational therapy in the client's home and community. Provides in-home rehabilitation training for legally blind people age 54 and older including training in independent daily living skills and mobility, and mainstreaming into local senior centers.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Spring Valley: 111 Summit Park Road, Spring Valley, NY 10977, Camp@visionsvc.org

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

New York: Selis Manor, 135 W. 23rd Street, New York, NY 10011, selis@visionsvc.org

WCNY-READ-OUT Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

P.O. Box 2400
Syracuse, NY 13220-2400
Tel: (315) 453-2424
(315) 451-8824 (Fax)
www.wcny.org/

Joe McDonough, Reading Service Coordinator,
joe_mcdonough@wcny.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: Onondaga County.

Geographic area served: Syracuse, Watertown, Utica, Ithaca and their environs.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts material mostly from magazines, consumer features, and various topical information. Publications include the Syracuse Post, Post Standard, Herald Journal, and many other local and regional newspapers.

Westchester Independent Living Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

200 Hamilton Avenue
2nd Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
Tel: (914) 682-3926 (Voice.)
(914) 682-0926 (TDD/TTY)
(914) 682-8518 (Fax)

www.wilc.org/

E-mail: info@wilc.org

Joe Bravo, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist individuals with disabilities become as independent as they can be and to work within the community to provide education, disability awareness, and advocacy for the removal of barriers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Works with individuals, community organizations, and state/national networks to promote full inclusion of people with disabilities and to improve the implementation of existing laws. Center staff is also available to give presentations to schools, businesses, and civic groups on any disability-related issue in order to heighten awareness and understanding of such issues.

Counseling: Provides individual and group counseling, as well as peer support groups. Peer advisors available to visit newly disabled individuals at hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and mental health facilities to help facilitate their transition back to the community and offer emotional support and practical advice on issues such as education and vocational opportunities, housing, recreation, sexuality, and adaptive equipment.

Information and Referral: Provides information on, and referral to, services available for individuals with varying disabilities. Provides help to consumers in understanding and accessing resources to help consumers understand what resources are available to them and to assist them in making informed choices.

Library: Maintains a resource library on issues related to disability.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in everyday life skills and offers consumer workshops on topics such as money management, managing an attendant, wheelchair maintenance, and accessing technology.

Western New York Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

4511 Main Street
Amherst, NY 14226
Tel: (716) 839-2218

(716) 839-2261 (Fax)

E-mail: WNYCVI@msn.com

John Rundquist, Executive Director and Chief of
Clinical Services, jrunk3113@yahoo.com
Ray Ziomek, Low Vision Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision rehabilitation services for people who are visually impaired.

Established: 1988.

Geographic area served: 8 Western New York Counties.

Ages served: 3 to 105.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$250,000.

Clients served annually: 600.

Staff: 4 salaried staff; 7 contracted.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Low vision devices and nonoptical devices available for sale.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Provides counseling for employment-bound clients.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-ups. Provides low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides in-home rehabilitation training and at the job site.

WMHT Public Broadcasting

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Radio reading station

17 Fern Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12301-0017
Tel: (518) 357-1700
(518) 357-1709 (Fax)

www.wmht.org

E-mail: email@wmht.org

Joyce M. Stah, RISE Manager, RISE Radio Information
Service, jstah@wmht.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: New York
Mid-Hudson and Greater Capital District.

Geographic area served: New York Mid-Hudson and Capital District.

Eligibility requirements: Certification by health care worker required.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.

Fee structure: Radio receivers loaned for free, although donations accepted.

Publications: Newsletter (monthly, listener-oriented).

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts national newspapers, books and magazines via pre-tuned subcarrier radio.

WXXI Reachout Radio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Radio reading station

280 State Street
Rochester, NY 14614
Tel: (585) 258-0333
(585) 258-0339 (Fax)

www.wxxi.org

E-mail: radio@wxxi.org

Ruth C. Phinney, Program Director, WXXI Reachout
Radio, rphinney@wxxi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide radio reading services for people who are print handicapped.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Monroe County.

Geographic area served: Rochester and 10 surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually or physically print handicapped.

Hours of operation: 24-hour service. Local operation 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Foundation grants, private donations.

Clients served annually: 3600.

Staff: 1 full-time, 1 part-time, 4 irregular.

Fee structure: No fee. Voluntary contributions accepted.

Publications: Annual newsletter and semi-annual program guide.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Provides radio reading services on Station WXXI.

Xavier Society for the Blind

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

North Carolina

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

North Carolina Department of Health and
Human Services: Division of Aging and
Adult Services
(800) 662-7030

North Carolina Division of Services for the
Blind
(919) 733-9822

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

North Carolina Early Intervention Services
(919) 855-4450

Educational Services

North Carolina Department of Public
Instruction: Exceptional Children Division
(919) 807-3969

Rehabilitation Services

North Carolina Division of Services for the
Blind
(919) 733-9822

School for the Blind

Governor Morehead School
(919) 733-6382

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Metrolina Association for the Blind

Information/Referral Centers

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Southern Regional
Office
Prevent Blindness North Carolina

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
State Library of North Carolina (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Asheville Lions Eye Clinic
Lion's Services
Low Vision Center of Mission Hospitals
Metrolina Association for the Blind
North Carolina Memorial Hospital: Low Vision Clinic
Raleigh Lions Clinic for the Blind
Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind

Membership Organizations (Professional)

North Carolina Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
North Carolina State Optometric Society

National Organizations

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center

Radio Reading Stations

Regional Audio Information Service Enterprise
Southeastern North Carolina Radio Reading Service
Triangle Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Industries of the Blind
Lion's Services
Lions Club Industries for the Blind
Lions Industries for the Blind
Metrolina Association for the Blind
Raleigh Lions Clinic for the Blind

Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind: Asheville
Division
Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Governor Morehead School

Social Service Organizations

North Carolina Lions Foundation

State Technology Programs

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

Asheville Lions Eye Clinic (ALEC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

45-A South French Broad Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801
Tel: (828) 252-5706
E-mail: eyeclinic01@bellsouth.net

Ann C. Rice, Director, (828) 252-5747 (Fax)
Leigh Nichols, Paraprofessional
Jackie Rice, Paraprofessional

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye care assistance for low-income visually impaired individuals and to eliminate the potential for blindness among the citizens of Buncombe County.

Established: 1937.

County/District where located: Buncombe County.

Geographic area served: Asheville and Buncombe Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Referral; current ophthalmological report.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, Fri. 8:00 AM-1:30 PM.

Funded by: Endowments, government grants, Lions Clubs, United Way.

Staff: Volunteer director, nurse, office secretary, screening technician.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Offers public glaucoma and diabetes screenings. Individuals may come to the office by appointment for free eye pressure, blood sugar or vision screenings.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals for financial assistance for clients unable to afford eye examinations and eyeglasses.

Low Vision: Evaluation and low vision devices provided with referral from eye doctor.

Preschool: Vision screenings provided to private and public schools. Refers to eye care specialists for elevated readings.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Southern Regional Office (FFB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

3104 Shadwell Court
Raleigh, NC 27613
Tel: (919) 676-3300
www.fightblindness.org
E-mail: info@blindness.org

Susan Brumley, Regional Director,
sbrumley@blindness.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To fund the research that will discover the causes, treatments, preventive methods, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, Stargardt disease, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases.

Geographic area served: Southern regional area.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: Free. Donations are welcome.

Publications: "In Focus" (newsletter); "In Sight" (e-newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for affected individuals and their families as well as doctors and eye care professionals. Provides comprehensive information kits on retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and Usher syndrome.

Governor Morehead School (GMS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

2303 Mail Service Center
301 Ashe Avenue
Administration Building
Raleigh, NC 27699-2303
Tel: (919) 733-6382
(919) 715-2206 (Fax)
www.governormorehead.net

Judy Plymale, Director, judy.plymale@ncmail.net

Kathy Davis, Outreach Program Director, (919)

715-4257, (919) 715-6852 (Fax),

Mary.K.Davis@ncmail.net

Holly Eastman, Outreach Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To educate successfully North Carolina's children and youths with visual impairments to be productive, independent, confident citizens and lifelong learners.

Established: 1845.

County/District where located: Wake County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind and multiply disabled.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Cottages for children.

Staff: 260 full-time. Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides social evaluations, psychological testing and evaluations, and access to Lions Clinic Assessment Center.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille, handwriting, keyboarding, typing.

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach services provided.

Counseling: Offers individual counseling, transition services, placement in school, training. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers general academic studies from preschool through grade 12, vocational/skill development, and special programs for multiply disabled blind persons.

Employment: Offers career and skill counseling transition services. Refers for some other employment services.

Health/Medical: Offers treatment of minor eye conditions, follow-up evaluation of eye treatment or prescription, general medical services, and speech, hearing, occupational and physical therapy. Refers for other health services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Operates 8 sites: Greensboro, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Morganton, Fayetteville, Greenville, Raleigh, and Wilmington.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, leisure activities, fitness activities, residential summer camp, swimming, track, wrestling, cheerleading, goalball.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening skills, keyboard, typing, home management, remedial education, sensory motor training, pre-vocational and vocational work centers. Refers for rehabilitation teaching in client's home and community.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

Industries of the Blind (IOB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

920 West Lee Street
Greensboro, NC 27403

Tel: (336) 274-1591

(336) 274-9207 (Fax)

www.industriesoftheblind.com

Michael A. Burge, Executive Director

Annette Clinard, Personnel Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance opportunities for people who are blind to achieve greater vocational, personal, and economic independence.

Established: 1933.

County/District where located: Guilford County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina, parts of South Carolina and Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, referral from North Carolina Services for the Blind.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: INSIGHT (monthly in-house publication).

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Operates sheltered workshops and provides vocational training. Manufactures a variety of products under the provisions of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act with the U.S. Government as principal contractor.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational evaluations, vocational training, training in independent living skills.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, State Library of North Carolina

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

1811 Capital Boulevard
Raleigh, NC 27635

Tel: (888) 388-2460

(919) 733-4376

(919) 733-1462 (TDD/TTY)

(919) 733-6910 (Fax)

www.statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lbph/lbph.htm

E-mail: ncbph@ncmail.net

Francine I. Martin, Regional Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free public library services to North Carolina residents who cannot use regular print due to a visual or physical disability.

Geographic area served: North Carolina. Also serves South Carolina with braille.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Lions Club Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1810 East Main Street

Durham, NC 27703

Tel: (919) 596-8277

(919) 598-1179 (Fax)

www.lcibsc.com

E-mail: bagan@gte.net

William L. Hudson, Executive Director,

bill.hudson@lc-ind.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide innovative quality employment opportunities to people with blindness.

Established: 1936.

County/District where located: Durham County.

Geographic area served: Greater Charlotte area.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers individual counseling and placement.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, workshops. Produces mattresses, file folder products.

Lions Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4126 Berkeley Avenue

Kinston, NC 28504-8321

Tel: (252) 523-1019 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(252) 523-7090 (Fax)

www.lionsindustries.org

Robert W. Smith, Executive Director,

bob_smith@lionsindustries.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment opportunities for the visually handicapped in a work setting that affords both income and dignity for the individual with no compromise in the quality of production.

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Lenior County.

Geographic area served: Lenior County and other counties in eastern North Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Recommended by Division for the Services for the Blind (DSB).

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair, low vision accessibility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides industrial training in jobs at facility, including sewing, woodworking, assembly. Sells products manufactured (nametapes, mail bags) at website (www.lionsindustries.org).

Lion's Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

4600 A North Tryon Street

Charlotte, NC 28213

Tel: (704) 921-1527

(704) 921-1577 (Fax)

www.lionsservices.org

Jim Cranford, Executive Director, lionsinc@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment, vocational rehabilitation and commercial employment opportunities to blind or visually impaired individuals. To provide health care and promote personal and economic independence.

County/District where located: Mecklenburg County.

Geographic area served: North and South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Legal age for work, blind or visually impaired or other handicap. Some vocational/educational programs require state residency.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to other employees and businesses regarding issues of employment of the blind or visually impaired.

Counseling: Provides counseling services related to employment.

Employment: Provides vocational training, vocational rehabilitation, on-the-job-site coaching, placement in

job, on-site industrial employment, training for competitive integrated employment.

Professional Training: Offers in-service instruction for vocational trainers of persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation.

Low Vision Center of Mission Hospitals

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

50 Doctors Drive

Suite 403

Asheville, NC 28801

Tel: (828) 213-4370

(828) 213-4376 (Fax)

www.missionhospitals.org/rehab-lowvision.htm

E-mail: crscsp@msj.org

Cheryl Phifer, Office Manager, crscsp@msj.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist visually impaired individuals in achieving maximum independence within their visual limitations. To act as regional provider of comprehensive low vision services to the visually impaired population, and network with other service providers to make sure each individual receives the services desired.

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Buncombe County.

Geographic area served: Western North Carolina, upper South Carolina, eastern Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Must have been seen by primary eye care provider, retinal specialist, or other within past year.

Ages served: 3 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facility.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Staff: Low vision optometrist, occupational therapist, low vision therapist, low vision peer counselor, office supervisor.

Fee structure: Fee for service, Medicare and private insurance, portion of fee is patient/client responsibility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells visual and non-optical aids of all types (must be seen for evaluation for optical equipment to be dispensed). Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers advice, assistance and consultative support to other agencies and people who work with visually impaired people.

Information and Referral: Refers for low vision and other visual services in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Offers some training with adaptive equipment, such as use of signature guides, high marking appliance dials. Provides training in daily living skills (basic) and use of adaptive devices and appliances for seniors.

Support Groups: Sponsors monthly support group in downtown Asheville.

Metrolina Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

704 Louise Avenue

Charlotte, NC 28204

Tel: (800) 926-5466

(704) 372-3870

(704) 373-3872 (Fax)

www.metrolinablind.org

E-mail: rscheffel@mab-jlbn.com

Robert C. Scheffel, President and Executive Director,
rscheffel@mab-jlbn.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To reduce or eliminate the daily living problems imposed upon people by blindness or severe visual impairment.

Established: 1934.

County/District where located: Mecklenburg County.

Geographic area served: Greater Charlotte area.

Eligibility requirements: Persons with an eye condition that may result in visual impairment or legal blindness or legally blind persons.

Ages served: 0 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible facility. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$2,500,000.

Clients served annually: 644.

Staff: 38. Administrative, transcribers and braille editors, O&M specialists, rehabilitation teachers, low vision specialist, teacher of the visually impaired, support staff.

Fee structure: No charge to clients except for a small low vision fee. Donations are accepted.

Publications: Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Counseling, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells braille papers and calendars, braille and large-print books.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Produces braille and large-print documents, textbooks, bank statements, utility statements.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling; referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies for employment-oriented services.

Information and Referral: Refers for health services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training and advocacy for environmental accessibility.

Recreation: Offers avocational services. Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home management, personal management, communication, money management, computer applications to daily living. Offers a variety of support services.

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 101

Raleigh, NC 27609-7322

Tel: (919) 850-2787 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(919) 850-2792 (Fax)

www.ncatp.org

Ricki Hiatt, Project Director, rhiatt@ncatp.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the awareness of various types of assistive technology; to educate and empower people regarding their rights to assistive technology accommodations; to share assistive technology resources with professionals, consumers, agencies, businesses, families and friends; to help people understand how assistive technology can improve an individual's quality of life.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates for individuals and their families.

Assistive Products: Offers training and awareness activities on assistive technology topics.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers assistance to agencies in developing assistive technology services.

Information and Referral: Provides information on funding and sources of assistive technology.

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services: Division of Aging and Adult Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

693 Palmer Drive

2101 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-2101

Tel: (800) 662-7030 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(CARE-LINE)

(919) 733-3983

(919) 733-4851 (TDD/TTY)

(919) 733-0443 (Fax)

www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/

E-mail: Heather.burkhardt@ncmail.net

Karen E. Gottovi, Director, karen.gottovi@ncmail.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independence and enhance the dignity of North Carolina's older and disabled persons and their families and ready younger generations to enjoy their later years.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Wake County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Over 60 years of age.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Ground floor access, elevator.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, government grants, public funds, state funds.

Staff: 51. Aging and disability specialists and support staff.

Fee structure: Voluntary contribution.

Publications: Plan on Aging (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services. Administers federal and state funds supporting services for older adults.

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction: Exceptional Children Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2585
Tel: (919) 807-3969
(919) 807-3243 (Fax)
www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/vi.htm

Mary Watson, Director
Kathy Baars, Early Childhood Consultant
David Mills, Section Chief, Areas of Exceptionality
Tom Winton, Consultant for Visually Impaired Services
and Assistive Technology, twinton@dpi.state.nc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer federal quota funds for students who are legally blind or visually impaired within the public school systems of North Carolina.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: Wake County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: State guidelines/Individualized Education Programs Team determination.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Publications: Students with Visual Impairments: A Handbook.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to school districts and external agencies working with students who are blind or visually impaired.

Education Services: Serves as a resource to local education agencies throughout the state. The Consultant for the Visual Impairment Program is involved with program planning and development for quality education for students with visual impairments. Provides via quota funds textbooks and other educational materials in alternate formats.

Information and Referral: Provides information to students who are blind or visually impaired and their parents about educational services available to them in North Carolina public education. Refers to external agencies and community resources where appropriate.

Professional Training: Provides in-service and other training opportunities for teachers of visually impaired and others providing educational services to this population.

North Carolina Division of Services for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

2601 Mail Service Center

309 Ashe Avenue

Raleigh, NC 27699-2601

Tel: (919) 733-9822

(919) 733-9700 (TDD/TTY)

(919) 733-9769 (Fax)

www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dsb/

E-mail: debbie.jackson@ncnmail.net

Debbie Jackson, Director, debbie.jackson@ncmail.net

Dr. William Apple, Computer Training

Jan H. Fesperman, Chief, Rehabilitation Programs & Facilities, (919) 715-8771 (Fax),

jan.fesperman@ncmail.net

Mary Flanagan, Assistant Director, Programs & Facilities, mary.flanagan@ncmail.net

Clay D. Pope, Chief, Business Enterprises, (919)

733-9703, (919) 715-8769 (Fax), clay.pope@ncmail.net

JoAnn Strader, Chief, Rehabilitation Field Services,

(919) 715-8771 (Fax), joann.strader@ncmail.net

Sally M. Syria, Chief, Independent Living Services &

Medical Eye Care, (919) 733-9744, (919) 733-2772

(Fax), sally.syria@ncmail.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower individuals who are blind or visually impaired to achieve their maximum potential through services provided by competent and caring professionals.

Established: 1935.

County/District where located: Wake County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: North Carolina residency.

Other requirements vary by program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers counseling on adjustment to blindness and employment in the independent and vocational rehabilitation programs.

Employment: Assists in preparing for and obtaining employment through vocational rehabilitation program.

Health/Medical: Provides medical eye care services for people who meet financial eligibility conditions.

Information and Referral: Refers to affiliated state media production center on same campus for educational, vocational, recreational and other materials in alternate formats.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Provides in-service training to staff in adjustment to blindness issues.

Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation services provided to assist blind and visually impaired individuals to live as independently as possible and to obtain and retain employment. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

North Carolina Early Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

1020 Richardson Drive
2302 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2302
Tel: (919) 855-4450
www.ncei.org/ei/itp/branch.html

Duncan Munn, Program Manager,
Duncan.Munn@ncmail.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase the quality, accessibility, and efficiency of early intervention services throughout North Carolina through a number of system management activities. These include, but are not limited to ongoing evaluation of the interagency service delivery system; identification of unmet early intervention needs and development of plans to address these needs; identification of all public and private sources of funding and development of procedures to access these funds; development and implementation of interagency agreements with other state agencies and private organizations to ensure most effective integration of available resources and services; and planning and providing training and technical assistance for staff from all public and private agencies providing early intervention services.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for North Carolina's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

North Carolina Lions Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

Camp Dogwood Drive
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673-0039
Tel: (800) 662-7401
(828) 478-2135

www.nclf.org/

E-mail: nclions@nclf.org

Steve L. Walker, Executive Director, steve@nclf.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Provides canes, free of charge, to any blind or visually impaired individual in North Carolina upon their request.

Health/Medical: Supports the North Carolina Lions Clinical Research Division at Wake Forest University and the North Carolina Lions Pediatric Eye Clinic at Duke University Eye Center. Also supports the North Carolina Eye and Human Tissue Bank.

Recreation: Operates Camp Dogwood, specifically for blind and visually impaired adults, with a few separate sessions for youth programs. Offers twelve 6-day sessions per summer.

North Carolina Memorial Hospital: Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Ambulatory Care Center, 2nd Floor
Mason Farm Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
Tel: (919) 966-2061
(919) 966-7908 (Fax)

www.med.unc.edu/ophth

Diane Beasley, Optometry

Henry A. Greene, Optometry

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye care assistance for visually impaired individuals, regardless of ability to pay.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Hours of operation: Fri. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped access.

Staff: Optometrist, social worker, genetic counselor, ophthalmology residents.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Assesses low vision devices and provides training in their use.

North Carolina Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

222 North Person Street

Raleigh, NC 27611

Tel: (919) 833-3836

(919) 833-2023 (Fax)

www.nceyemd.org/

E-mail: ncoph@ncmedsoc.org

Alan Skipper, Executive Director,

askipper@ncmedsoc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and advance the science and art of medicine pertaining to the eye-related structures. To enlighten and inform the public at large in regard to public health as related to ophthalmology and to secure the enactment and enforcement of legislation regulating and maintaining standards of health care in the State of North Carolina.

County/District where located: Raleigh Wake County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

Publications: Newsletter.

North Carolina State Optometric Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

P.O. Box 1206

Wilson, NC 27894-1206

Tel: (252) 237-6197

(252) 237-9233 (Fax)

www.nceyes.org

E-mail: nceyecare@aol.com

Sue O. Gardner, Executive Director

Prevent Blindness North Carolina

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Information/referral center**

4011 West Chase Boulevard

Suite 225

Raleigh, NC 27613

Tel: (919) 755-5044

(919) 755-5013 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org/nc/

E-mail: jtalbot@pbnc.org

Jennifer Talbot, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye care assistance for low-income visually impaired individuals and eliminate the potential for blindness among the citizens of North Carolina. To provide free vision screenings for children and adults.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter, informational brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Administers vision screenings for at-risk populations.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health and eye safety free of charge.

Library: Maintains an eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

Raleigh Lions Clinic for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

315 Hubert Street

Raleigh, NC 27603

Tel: (919) 833-8611

(919) 833-5664 (Fax)

www.raleighlionsclinic.com

E-mail: info@raleighlionsclinic.com

Janet Griffey, President,

janet.griffey@raleighlionsclinic.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide assessment, training, and job placement services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired, empowering them to access the vocational setting of their choice and to achieve economic and personal independence through employment.

Established: 1966.

County/District where located: Wake County.

Geographic area served: North Carolina.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers psychological testing, psychiatric consultation.

Employment: Provides Supported Employment Services for people who are blind, visually impaired, or multihandicapped blind, and maintains employment in competitive work settings, usually with a job coach until independent functioning is reached.

Information and Referral: Refers to other community-based programs and services.

Rehabilitation: Offers assertiveness training, cognitive training, remedial education.

Regional Audio Information Service Enterprise (RAISE)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

75 Haywood Street
Suite G-5
Asheville, NC 28801
Tel: (828) 251-2166
(828) 251-2166 (Fax)
www.raisewnc.org
E-mail: info@raisewnc.org
Shirley Cohen, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Buncombe County.
Geographic area served: 23 westernmost counties of North Carolina.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Airs widely varied programs, including the news, health topics, entertainment, music. Broadcasts material from newspapers and magazines daily. Publications include Asheville Citizen Times, Hendersonville Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Christian Science Monitor.

Southeastern North Carolina Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1200 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301
Tel: (910) 486-7007
www.ci-n.com/ncarrs/sencrrs.html
E-mail: nassau@fayettevillenc.com
Betsy Stuart, Director, bstuart@uncfsu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Cumberland County.
Geographic area served: Southeastern North Carolina, 13 counties.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from daily newspapers, In Touch, weekly sports news, area and national news, and books. Publications include the Fayetteville Observer, The Pilot, and other regional newspapers.

Triangle Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

211 E. Six Forks Road
Suite 103
Raleigh, NC 27609-7743
Tel: (919) 832-5138
(919) 832-5194 (Fax)
www.trianglereadingservice.org
E-mail: trserv@nc.rr.com
Linda Ornt, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide local news and information for blind, elderly, and print impaired people in the greater Triangle area encompassing Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Wake County.

Geographic area served: Greater Triangle, Wake County, and 17 counties in north central North Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: An application must be on file to receive a specially tuned receiver to hear the programs for those without Time Warner Cable living in Wake County.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Budget: \$126,000.

Clients served annually: 15,000.

Staff: 2. Over 130 volunteer readers in addition to staff participation.

Fee structure: Service is free to those who apply.

Publications: Newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Newsletters, Program Guide.

Reading Services: 130 volunteers read local newspapers over an SCA provided by WUNC-FM. Newspapers read include the Raleigh N&O, Durham Herald Sun, Chapel Hill Herald, Chatham Co. News, Carolina Times, Carolinian, Garner News, Cary News, Smithfield Herald, Apex Herald, Franklin Times, Fuquay-Varina Independent and the Eastern Wake News. Volunteers also read magazines and books over the air.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:
Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center**

See Alabama.

Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

7730 North Point Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Tel: (336) 759-0551
(336) 759-0990 (Fax)

www.wsifb.com/
E-mail: info@wsifb.com

Daniel J. Boucher, President, dboucher@wsifb.com
Jim Collier, Human Resources Manager,
jcollier@wsifb.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Forsyth County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers evaluation, vocational training. Sells various products, including mattresses, vinyl footcovers, shower curtains, mostly for government contracts. Many products, including futons, available in an outlet shop on site.

**Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind:
Asheville Division**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency

45 South French Broad Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801

Tel: (828) 258-2332

(828) 258-9814 (Fax)

www.wsifb.com/staff.htm

Randy Buckner, General Manager, Asheville, (258)
258-9814 (Fax), rbuckner@wsifb.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1938.

County/District where located: Buncombe County.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or legally blind.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides vocational training.

Manufactures poncho liners, submarine laundry bags, kit bags and other items for military. Vertical merchandising and packaging emphasized.

North Dakota

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

North Dakota Department of Human
Services: Aging Services Division
(800) 451-8693

North Dakota Department of Human
Services: Vocational Rehabilitation
(800) 755-2745

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

North Dakota Department of Human
Services: Developmental Disabilities Unit
(701) 328-8969

Educational Services

North Dakota Department of Public
Instruction
(701) 328-2277

Instructional Materials Center

North Dakota Vision Resource Center
(701) 795-2700

Rehabilitation Services

North Dakota Department of Human
Services: Vocational Rehabilitation
(800) 755-2745

School for the Blind

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the
Blind
(800) 421-1181

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Infant/Preschool Agencies

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

Information/Referral Centers

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

Libraries

North Dakota State Library: Disability Services (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

Membership Organizations (Professional)

North Dakota Optometric Association

Postsecondary Institutions

University of North Dakota: Department of Special
Education

Rehabilitation Agencies

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

State Technology Programs

North Dakota Interagency Program for Assistive
Technology

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Rocky Mountain Region Office (HKNC)

See Colorado.

North Dakota Department of Human Services: Aging Services Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

600 E Boulevard Avenue, Dept 325

Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

Tel: (800) 451-8693

(701) 328-4601

(701) 328-3480 (TDD/TTY)

(701) 328-4061 (Fax)

www.ndseniorinfoonline.com

E-mail: dhssrinf@state.nd.us

Linda Wright, Director, Aging Services, (701) 328-4607

Astrid Senger, Human Services Program Specialist,

Aging Services/North Dakota Senior Info-Line, (701)

328-4642, sosena@state.nd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality services to aging adults and persons with physical disabilities.

County/District where located: Burleigh County.

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

Eligibility requirements: 60 and above, or disabled.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to Seniors, Caregivers, and Professional.

North Dakota Department of Human Services: Developmental Disabilities Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Dakota Foundation Building

600 South Second Street, Suite 1A

Bismarck, ND 58504

Tel: (701) 328-8969

(701) 328-8936

www.ndearlyintervention.com

Debra Balsdon, Part C Coordinator, sobald@state.nd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for North Dakota's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

North Dakota Department of Human Services: Vocational Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

600 South Second Street, Suite 1B

Bismarck, ND 58504

Tel: (800) 755-2745

(701) 328-8950

(701) 328-8968 (TDD/TTY)

(701) 328-8969 (Fax)

www.lnotes.state.nd.us/dhs/dhsweb.nsf/0/f80eba969987b12d8625666e00708ac8?OpenDocument

E-mail: dhsds@state.nd.us

Gene Hysjulien, Director

Mike Beck, Administrator of Vision Services, (701)

328-8954, sobecm@state.nd.us

Harley Engelman, Business Services, ADA,

soengh@state.nd.us

Wanda Gier, Director, Rehabilitation Services,

sogiew@state.nd.us

Cheryl Wescott, Program Administrator, Independent

Living Program, Policy Development/Manuals,

Program Evaluation, sowesc@state.nd.us

Program Evaluation, sowesc@state.nd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide the opportunity for individuals with disabilities to achieve productive employment and increased independence.

Established: 1921.

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

Eligibility requirements: Persons trying to maintain or obtain employment and maintain independence.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers assessment of vocational and independent living needs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultation and technical assistance through regional offices.

Counseling: Offers social work services available through regional offices.

Early Intervention: Refers to Developmental Disability Unit.

Employment: Offers employment services through regional offices.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services through regional offices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home and personal management through regional offices. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and over.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Bismarck: West Central Human Service Center, 600 South Second Street, Suite 2, Bismarck, ND 58504, Tom Schiwal, VR Administrator

Devils Lake: Lake Region Human Service Center, 200 Highway 2 SW, Devils Lake, ND 58301, Nancy Lunden, VR Administrator

Dickinson: Region VIII Human Services Center, 117 First Street East, Dickinson, ND 58601, Kari Lyon-Shea, VR Administrator

Fargo: Southeast Human Service Center, 2624 9th Avenue SW, Fargo, ND 58103-2350, Terry Lien, VR Administrator

Grand Forks: Northeast Human Service Center, 151 South 4th Street, Suite 401, Grand Forks, ND 58201, 84haaj@state.nd.us, Jan Haas, VR Administrator

Jamestown: South Central Human Service Center, 520 Third Street, NW, Jamestown, ND 58402-2055, Richard Richter, VR Administrator

Minot: North Central Human Service Center, 400 22nd Avenue NW, Minot, ND 58701, Larry Lane, VR Administrator

Williston: Northwest Human Service Center, 316 Second Avenue West, Williston, ND 58802-1266, Paul Jorgenson, VR Administrator

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Office of Special Education
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

Tel: (701) 328-2277
(701) 328-4920 (TDD/TTY)
(701) 328-4149 (Fax)
www.dpi.state.nd.us

Nancy Skorheim, Coordinator of Special Education,
nskorheim@state.nd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide leadership for a comprehensive system of educational opportunities for all people of North Dakota.

County/District where located: Burleigh County.

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to school districts on educational programs for blind/visually impaired students.

Education Services: Administers supplemental state funds for visually impaired children attending local schools.

North Dakota Interagency Program for Assistive Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

3509 Interstate Boulevard
Fargo, ND 58103

Tel: (800) 265-4728 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(701) 239-7247

(701) 239-7229 (Fax)

www.ndipat.org

Judie Lee, Project Director, jlee@polarcomm.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Lends assistive technology equipment for free trial use. Offers individual or group training on a wide range of assistive technology devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Works with individuals, employers, vocational rehabilitation counselors, health care providers, school systems, universities, people who provide services to the elderly, and others to meet the needs of their customers.

North Dakota Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

921 South Ninth Street, Suite 120
Bismarck, ND 58504

Tel: (701) 258-6766
(701) 256-9005 (Fax)
www.ndeyecare.info/
E-mail: ndoa@btinet.net

Nancy J. Jopp, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1930.

County/District where located: Burleigh County.

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Northern Sightings (newsletter).

North Dakota State Library: Disability Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

604 East Boulevard Avenue

Bismarck, ND 58505-0800

Tel: (800) 892-8622 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(701) 328-1408

(701) 328-4923 (TDD/TTY)

(701) 328-2040 (Fax)

www.ndsl.lib.state.nd.us

E-mail: tbooks@state.nd.us

Terri Wilhelm, Head of Services for the Disabled

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To utilize the State Library's leadership role to improve library and information services statewide, and to assess and plan for library information needs and evaluate existing services.

Established: 1907.

County/District where located: Burleigh County.

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap entrance, elevator, staff assistance.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: Discovery, Flicker Talk (newsletters).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Supplies descriptive videocassettes.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Dakota Radio Reading Information Services: local newspapers read every day.

maintains ongoing communications between the school and other educational facilities, as well as other agencies serving visually impaired children and adults.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in North Dakota.

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

■ School for the blind

500 Stanford Road

Grand Forks, ND 58203-2799

Tel: (800) 421-1181

(701) 795-2700

(701) 795-2727 (Fax)

www.ndvisionservices.com

Carmen E. Suminski, Superintendent, North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind, (701) 795-2708, csuminsk@state.nd.us

Sandy Atkinson, Talking Book Machine Coordinator, (701) 795-2711, satkinso@state.nd.us

Gary Bornsen, Network Administrator, (701) 795-2721, gbornsen@state.nd.us

Ariana Cipriano, Administrative Assistant, aciprian@state.nd.us

June Corbid, Orientation and Mobility Assistant, (701) 795-2704, jcorbid@state.nd.us

Ken Dockter, Outreach Teacher, (701) 795-2724, Ken.Dockter@sendit.nodak.edu

Pam Haus, Administrative Assistant/Technology Assistant, (701) 795-2710, phaus@state.nd.us

Pat Hill, Outreach Teacher, (701) 795-2718, Pat.Hill@sendit.nodak.edu

Deb Johnsen, Outreach Teacher, (701) 795-2719, Deb.Johnsen@sendit.nodak.edu

Linda Kraft, Outreach Teacher, (701) 253-3012, Linda.Kraft@sendit.nodak.edu

Candy Lien, Braille Teacher, (701) 795-2714, cmlien@juno.com

Diane Mihulka, Outreach Teacher, (701) 795-2722, Diane.Mihulka@sendit.nodak.edu

Cheryl Misialek, Administrative Assistant, (701) 795-2715, cmisiale@state.nd.us

Paul Olson, Coordinator of Orientation and Mobility Program, North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind, (701) 795-2717, polson@state.nd.us

Tami Purcell, Business Manager, (701) 795-2707, tpurcell@state.nd.us

North Dakota Vision Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

500 Stanford Road

Grand Forks, ND 58203-2799

Tel: (701) 795-2700

(701) 795-2727 (Fax)

www.ndvisionservices.com/vision-resource-center.html

Leslie D. Klingenstein, Director,

Leslie.Klingenstein@sendit.nodak.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: North Dakota.

Additional information: The Vision Resource Center at the North Dakota School for the Blind establishes and

Crystal Roy, Braille Access Center, (701) 795-2713,
croy@state.nd.us
Janice Sowokinos, Technology Specialist/Teacher, (701)
795-2720, Janice.Sowokinos@sendit.nodak.edu
Katrina Wendel, Outreach Teacher/Counselor, (701)
795-2716, kwendel@state.nd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To function as a statewide comprehensive resource and to work cooperatively with related agencies in providing a full range of services to all persons who are blind or visually impaired, including those with multiple disabilities.

Established: 1908.

County/District where located: Grand Forks County.

Geographic area served: North Dakota and NW Minnesota.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or blind.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Residential Facilities: Housing (apartments and suites).

Staff: 27. Administrative, vision teachers technology specialists, O&M instructor, brailist.

Fee structure: Based on age, service provided and state of residence.

Publications: Reaching Out (newsletter), brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides evaluations and assessments in braille, daily living skills, functional vision, orientation and mobility, technology, and vocational/career.

Assistive Products: Sells adaptive devices. Products for sale on site and via mail.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Reports, programs and agendas, catalogs, flyers and brochures handouts, meeting minutes, letters and memos, ballots, training materials, books, directories, schedules, menus and many more.

Community Outreach Programs: Has a regionalized statewide outreach program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Early Intervention: Provides parent-infant and family services.

Education Services: Offers vision-specific, short-term programs, and statewide outreach.

Employment: Provides training in transition, job development and job readiness, career planning, comprehensive vocational evaluation system.

Information and Referral: Operates a toll-free information and referral line; In-Service Training.

Library: Provides descriptive videos and toys, professional literature, educational aids and periodicals, books, textbooks in alternative formats. Talking Book Machine Lending Agency, Toy/Adaptive Equipment Lending Library, American Printing House Quota Funds.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Offers resources and vision-specific instructions and adaptations for seniors.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers family organization and family support directory of services.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training via workshops, conferences, and in-services.

Recreation: Offers recreation/leisure activities, including goal ball, beeper ball, and adaptations.

Rehabilitation: Provides vision-specific center-based and outreach services. Provides instruction in daily living skills, functional vision, music, recreational/leisure, technology, and vocational/career development.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Bismarck: 418 East Broadway Avenue, Suite 228, Bismarck, ND 58501

Fargo: SE Human Service Center, 2624 9th Avenue, SW, Fargo, ND 58103

Jamestown: 300 2nd Avenue NE, Suite 208, Jamestown, ND 58401-3373

Minot: Minot State University, 500 University Avenue West, P.O. Box 202, Minot, ND 58707

University of North Dakota: Department of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

P.O. Box 7189

Grand Forks, ND 58202

Tel: (701) 777-3188

(701) 777-3246 (Fax)

www.und.edu/dept/tl/spcedu/

Kari Chiasson, Director, Vision Preparation Program,
(701) 777-3236, kari.chiasson@und.nodak.edu

Myrna Olson, Visually Impaired Program,
myrna_olson@und.nodak.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Grand Forks County.

Geographic area served: North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota, Manitoba.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Graduate programs for teachers of visually impaired students.

Ohio

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Ohio Department of Aging

(800) 422-1976

Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission,
Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired
and Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

(800) 282-4536

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Ohio Department of Health: Bureau of Early
Intervention Services

(614) 644-8389

Educational Services

Ohio Department of Education: Office for
Exceptional Children

(614) 466-2650

Instructional Materials Center

Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence

(866) 886-2254

Rehabilitation Services

Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission,
Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired
and Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

(800) 282-4536

School for the Blind

Ohio State School for the Blind

(614) 752-1152

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Cincinnati Public Schools: Visually Handicapped
Materials Center

Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Dog Guide Schools

Pilot Dogs

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Wood County Educational Service Center

Information/Referral Centers

Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Philomatheon Society of the Blind

Prevent Blindness Ohio

Libraries

Dayton Public Schools: Special Education Resource and
Braille Library

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Cleveland Public Library (NLS)

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
(NLS)

State Library of Ohio: Talking Book Program

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Cincinnati Association for the Blind

Cleveland Sight Center

Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Ohio State University: College of Optometry, Vision
Rehabilitation Service

Philomatheon Society of the Blind

Southeast Ohio Sight Center

UDS Low Vision Services

Vision Center of Central Ohio

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

United States Braille Chess Association

Membership Organizations (Professional)

National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving
People with Blindness or Visual Impairment
Ohio Ophthalmological Society
Ohio Optometric Association

National Organizations

Delta Gamma Foundation: Service for Sight
National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving
People with Blindness or Visual Impairment
United States Braille Chess Association

Postsecondary Institutions

Ohio State University: School of Teaching and Learning
University of Toledo: Early Childhood, Physical, and
Special Education

Radio Reading Stations

Cincinnati Association for the Blind
Cleveland Sight Center
Radio Reading Services of Greater Cincinnati
VOICEcorps Reading Service (formerly Central Ohio
Radio Reading Service)
Written Communications Radio Service (WCRS) for the
Print Handicapped

Rehabilitation Agencies

Cincinnati Association for the Blind
Cleveland Sight Center
Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Goodwill Industries of the Miami Valley
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries: Rehabilitation Center
The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio: Toledo Society for
the Blind
Southeast Ohio Sight Center
UDS Low Vision Services
Vision Center of Central Ohio
Vision Support Services of Akron
Vocational Guidance Services

Research Organizations

University of Toledo: Early Childhood, Physical, and
Special Education

Residential Facilities

Samuel W. Bell Home for Sightless

Schools for the Blind

Ohio State School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Philomatheon Society of the Blind

State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology of Ohio

Assistive Technology of Ohio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

445 East Dublin Granville Road
Building L
Worthington, OH 43085
Tel: (800) 784-3425
(614) 293-9132 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(614) 293-9127 (Fax)
www.atohio.org

William Darling, Interim Executive Director,
darling.12@osu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Works to get laws and administrative rules
passed that will make it easier for people with
disabilities to obtain assistive technology.

Assistive Products: Helps people with disabilities
obtain their own computer.

Financial Assistance: Offers a low-interest loan
program for the acquisition of assistive technology for
home, work or school to Ohioans with disabilities.

Cincinnati Association for the Blind (CAB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Radio reading station

■ Rehabilitation agency

2045 Gilbert Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45202-1490
Tel: (888) 687-3935
(513) 221-8558
(513) 221-2995 (Fax)
www.cincyblind.org
E-mail: info@cincyblind.org

Hank E. Baud, Ed.D., Executive Director,
hank.baud@cincyblind.org
Ginny Backscheider, Director of Program Services,
ginny.backscheider@cincyblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer blind and visually impaired people
the opportunity to seek independence.

Established: 1911.

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Greater Cincinnati, Northern
Kentucky and surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Vision loss that interferes
with functioning.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds, United Way, workshop sales.

Clients served annually: 4,000.

Staff: 62.

Fee structure: Fees based on ability to pay; third-party payers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assessments provided in all areas, including early childhood, low vision, orientation & mobility, computer access, and rehabilitation teaching.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Grade I & Grade II braille; instruction in use of braille computer devices.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations for businesses wishing to employ blind or visually impaired persons.

Counseling: Provides individualized assessment; individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling.

Early Intervention: Helps parents of young children become knowledgeable about their child's visual functioning to help the child with an environment that will stimulate appropriate development; helps families with school issues; music program.

Employment: Provides industrial employment, producing items sold primarily to government entities, such as tape products and rolled paper, kitchen gadgets, dining packets. Provides training for jobs in machine operation, light assembly, packaging, and quality control. Participates in National Industries for the Blind program.

Information and Referral: Provides information by telephone, in person, by mail or through the Internet. Telephone staffed daily by experienced social workers. Refers for health services.

Low Vision: Provides evaluation and instruction in the use of prescribed low vision devices and techniques to use remaining vision more effectively. Low vision aids provided for trial period. Includes closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs) and over 200 different low vision aids; services provided at main office and in Butler & Warren County satellite centers.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides evaluation and instruction in proven orientation and mobility techniques; instruction provided for home, school, work, or other destinations.

Parent Assistance: Provides information and support to parents to assist them in shaping their child's future, self-esteem, social acceptance and independence.

Professional Training: Offers internships and field work placements in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, social work.

Reading Services: Operates WRRS, which provides audio access to local and selected national newspapers and magazines. Personalized Talking Print (PTP) allows access from touch-tone phones, any time, for news stories and magazine articles. Also, Ohio Telephone Reader (OTR). Talking Book Machine distributor for Hamilton and Clermont Counties in Ohio.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts activities as part of rehabilitation teaching. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other recreation services.

Rehabilitation: Provides one-on-one instruction in communication skills (braille, typing, handwriting), home management skills (cooking, cleaning, and other skills), and personal management skills (grooming, money management, medications, clothing). Service provided in person's home or at CAB. Group services offered periodically.

Cincinnati Public Schools: Visually Handicapped Materials Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

2355 Iowa Street

Cincinnati, OH 45206

Tel: (513) 369-4617

www.cpsboe.k12.oh.us/

E-mail: CPSWeb@cpsboe.k12.oh.us

Elizabeth R. Collins, Materials Coordinator for the Visually Impaired

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide leadership development, technical assistance, and support to school staffs to assure compliance and appropriate delivery of services for students with special needs and other students receiving services in non-public schools.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational, career/vocational, academic.

Education Services: Provides schools with various educational materials in alternative formats.

Cleveland Sight Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Radio reading station

■ Rehabilitation agency

1909 East 101st Street

Cleveland, OH 44106

Tel: (216) 791-8118

(216) 791-1101 (Fax)

www.clevelandsightcenter.org

E-mail: email@clevelandsightcenter.org

Michael E. Grady, Executive Director,
 mgrady@clevelandsightcenter.org
 Earl Cohen, Director, Child and Youth Services
 Programming, jerbs@clevelandsightcenter.org
 Anne Marie Cronin, Director, Development and Public
 Relations, amcronin@clevelandsightcenter.org
 John Erbs, Director, Division of Rehabilitation,
 jerbs@clevelandsightcenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable people with visual impairments to reach their full potential while, at the same time, creating a better understanding and acceptance of visual impairment across the community.

Established: 1906.

County/District where located: Cuyahoga County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Cuyahoga and its adjoining counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Available for clients who have not yet mastered their traveling skills and for clients who are participants in one of the partnership training programs with agencies in other states.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Offers free glaucoma and preschool vision screening.

Assistive Products: Operates Eye-Dea Shop, which carries a wide selection of items, including basic magnifiers, large print calendars, talking clocks, extra-bright lamps, and a variety of items to help with cooking, cleaning, sewing, and even with recreational activities – such as large print playing cards and board games. The shop is open every weekday from 9:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Educational materials, books, and other requested material.

Community Outreach Programs: Maintains outreach offices in five suburbs.

Computer Training: Provides computer training with adaptive equipment at the STORER Computer Center.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations to other schools and programs.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation; psychological testing and evaluation; individual, group, family, parent, and couple counseling; and referral to other community services.

Employment: Provides food service training and snack bar employment, vocational counseling and consultation. Refers to other employment services.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment; low vision evaluation with full agency services; occupational, speech, and language therapy. Offers glaucoma and amblyopia screening and referral; audiology testing; diabetic education and counseling. Refers for other health services.

Library: Lends talking book record and cassette players. Provides information and referral and services such as transcription to braille, translation to other languages, tape recording on demand, and radio reading services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Offers home- and center-based early intervention program for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Operates Bright Futures preschool classes, ages 3-5.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in low vision, orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work, vocational rehabilitation teaching, regular in-service training programs, open to enrollment from other agencies.

Reading Services: Provides timely access to today's in-depth news for anyone who does not have easy access to standard print materials due to vision loss or a perceptual or physical disability through the Cleveland Radio Reading Service. Newspapers read daily by Cleveland Radio Reading Service (CRRS): The Plain Dealer, Wall Street Journal, Christian Science Monitor, The Sun Papers, The Cleveland Jewish Press, The Call and Post, Catholic Universe Bulletin, USA Today.

Recreation: Offers residential summer camp, full recreational therapy program. Other recreational activities include sailing, rowing, golf, etc.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, adaptive communications, college prep and vocational readiness program, use of closed-circuit televisions.

Support Groups: Offers senior-to-senior peer support program.

Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

Main Campus

7000 Hamilton Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45231

Tel: (888) 234-7156 (All Locations)

(513) 522-3860 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Main Campus, Cincinnati)

(888) 234-7156 (TDD/TTY)
 (513) 728-3940 (TDD/TTY)
 (513) 728-3946 (Fax) (Main Campus, Cincinnati)
 www.clovernook.org
 E-mail: clovernook@clovernook.org
 Jeffrey D. Brasie, President, jbrasie@clovernook.org
 Edith M. Gholson, VP, Clovernook Center Memphis,
 (901) 523-9590, (901) 523-1480 (Fax),
 egholson@clovernook.org
 Kathleen M. Ivie, VP, Fund Development &
 Community Relations, kivie@clovernook.org
 Robin L. Usalis, VP, Program Services, Rehabilitation,
 (513) 522-3946 (Fax), rusalis@clovernook.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independence and foster the highest quality of life for people with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities.

Established: 1903.

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and Eastern Indiana. Information and Referral inquiries come from anywhere in the world.

Eligibility requirements: Vision impairment that affects normal functioning.

Ages served: 7 and above.

Hours of operation: Service Centers: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM; or as needed.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage, TDD/TTY phones. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$13,600,000.

Clients served annually: 1,500.

Staff: 250. Administration and support staff, approx. 45; Rehabilitation services, approx. 60; Industrial operations, approx. 145.

Fee structure: Fee for service based on income where applicable.

Publications: Perspective (quarterly newsletter) and Connection (bi-weekly employee newsletter). Clovernook also publishes braille and large print books, magazines, and periodicals by contract with government and commercial publishers.

Additional information: Clovernook has offices in Cincinnati, Ohio; Dayton, Ohio; and Memphis, Tennessee. Service options vary per location. Cincinnati and Memphis locations have manufacturing plants which employ individuals who are legally blind in the production of braille books and magazines, pressboard file folders, and paper cups. There is also capacity to perform sub-contract work.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Braille and Reading Instruction, Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Computer Training, Employment, Information and Referral, Low

Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provided in all service areas.

Assistive Products: Distributes independent living aids and accessories. Products for sale on site in Cincinnati and Memphis facilities, and online.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille reading and writing; provides low vision adaptation instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Embosses braille books, magazines, catalogs, and other publications for individuals and national organizations, including the Library of Congress, American Foundation for the Blind, Lions Clubs International, United States Internal Revenue Service, United States Department of Education, and the Social Security Administration. Distributes braille, large print, and audio materials under contract with the National Library Service for the Blind and Handicapped (NLS).

Computer Training: Offers skills assessment, adaptive equipment trials, and comprehensive computer skills training from basic literacy to advanced skills training. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Specialized systems training per employment contract(s) with area employer(s) to familiarize client with employers' specific and unique computer system(s).

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to organizations that wish to make their environments, print materials, etc. more accessible to people who are visually impaired.

Counseling: Offers individual, group counseling, case management, referral to community services. Provides vocational adjustment and personal adjustment counseling focusing on psychosocial issues.

Employment: Offers vocational interest testing, transitional work services, job development and placement, job coaching, work adjustment, sheltered employment, and/or competitive internal or external employment opportunities.

Information and Referral: Provides information about vision-related issues and services over the telephone, on the Internet, in person, and by mail. Refers callers to other agencies as appropriate.

Low Vision: Provides clinical low vision evaluation, prescription and training in the use of assistive devices, and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training in home, work, or other community environments.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, social work, rehabilitation teaching.

Recreation: Offers individualized leisure programming with emphasis on socialization and self-expression.

Rehabilitation: Offers an array of programs and services, including training in independent living skills, safe and independent mobility skills, computer access, counseling, vocational services, recreation, and youth programs. Individual and group support is available for seniors and their families, who are experiencing age-related vision loss to promote independence and self-confidence. Clinical low vision evaluation and prescription of low vision tools and devices is also available.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Memphis: Clovernook Center Memphis, 346 St. Paul Avenue, Memphis, TN 38126, memphis@clovernook.org

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Dayton: Clovernook Center Dayton, 111 West First Street, Suite 515, Dayton, OH 45402, dayton@clovernook.org, Robin Totsch, Manager

Dayton Public Schools: Special Education Resource and Braille Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

115 S. Ludlow Street
Dayton, OH 45402
Tel: (937) 542-3284

Julia Becker, Associate Director of Special Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Fee structure: Thermoformed books: 15 cents per page (braille not included).

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Offers supplemental materials to special education teachers within the district. Provides services to visually impaired students within the district and produces brailled books that are in stock for a per-page charge.

Library: Maintains a library of braille books.

Delta Gamma Foundation: Service for Sight

See U.S. National Organizations.

Goodwill Industries of the Miami Valley

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1511 Kuntz Road

Dayton, OH 45404

Tel: (937) 461-4800

(937) 461-2750 (Fax)

www.dayton.net/goodwill

E-mail: M.Sellers@Goodwilldayton.org

Amy Luttrell, President, a.luttrell@goodwilldayton.org

Bob Pawlak, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people with disabilities or other needs to experience the benefits of work and achieve a better quality of life.

Established: 1934.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Montgomery, Greene, Logan, Miami, Shelby, Darke, and Preble Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually, physically, mentally, or emotionally disadvantaged.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides low vision assessments.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers literacy and GED program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Offers consultation and referral service, group work, psychological testing.

Employment: Provides evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, vocational placement, and follow-up service. Operates sheltered workshop and work activities center.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and work adjustment skills.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: North Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Illinois.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Cleveland Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

17121 Lake Shore Boulevard

Cleveland, OH 44110-4006

Tel: (800) 362-1262 (Toll-free in Ohio.)

(216) 623-2911

(216) 623-7036 (Fax)

www.cpl.org/locations.asp?FormMode=LBPH

E-mail: lbph@cpl.org

Barbara T. Mates, Head Librarian,

barbara.mates@cpl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide service to registered readers in 55 northern counties of Ohio. To circulate talking books provided by the NLS, and other general library services in the form of information, readers' advisory services and production of books with local interest.

Established: 1931.

Geographic area served: Allen, Ashland, Ashtabula, Auglaize, Belmont, Carroll, Champaign, Columbiana, Coshocton, Darke, Defiance, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Fulton, Geauga, Guernsey, Licking, Logan, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Marion, Medina, Mercer, Morrow, Ottawa, Paulding, Portage, Putman, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Union, Van Wert, Wayne, Williams, Wood, and Wyandot Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Barrier-free, on street level.

Publications: Dimensions of LBPH (general newsletter), Cyberwire (adaptive technology newsletter).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Administers Braille Read Together, a program matching braille readers with youth learning braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Administers 5 satellite adaptive technology sites in public library branches.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training to anyone who needs to use or show people how to use adaptive technology.

Information and Referral: Provides information by telephone, mail and training in the use of Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

800 Vine Street

Cincinnati, OH 45202-2071

Tel: (800) 582-0335 (Toll-free in Ohio)

(513) 369-6999

(513) 369-3372 (TDD/TTY)

(513) 369-3111 (Fax)

www.cincinnati.library.org/main/lb.asp

E-mail: lfb@cincinnati.library.org

Donna Foust, Librarian,

donna.foust@CincinnatiLibrary.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1901.

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Adams, Athens, Brown, Butler, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Fairfield, Gallia, Gayette, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Madison, Meigs, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Rose, Scioto, Vinton, Warren, and Washington Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Wed. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Thur.-Sat. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM, Sun. 1:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is accessible to blind and physically disabled individuals.

Clients served annually: Approximately 5500.

Staff: 12 full-time employees. 1 librarian, 5.5 full-time readers advisors, 5.5 full-time shelver/pages.

Fee structure: No fees are charged.

Publications: Southern Ohio Views.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving People with Blindness or Visual Impairment (NAC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

5220 N High Street
Columbus, OH 43214
Tel: (866) 886-2254
(614) 410-0321
(614) 410-1076 (TDD/TTY)
(614) 410-1090 (Fax) (Fax textbook requests and federal quota registrations to (614)410-1091.)
www.ocali.org
E-mail: ocali@ocali.org

Mary Binion, Director, mary_binion@ocali.org
Kelly Houston, Support Staff, (614) 410-1091 (Fax),
kelly_houston@ocali.org
Paula Mauro, Assistant Coordinator,
paula_mauro@ocali.org
Phyllis Mullins, Support Staff, (614) 410-1091 (Fax),
phyllis_mullins@ocali.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create, promote and ensure access for children and youth with autism and low incidence disabilities through partnerships, technology and training.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Autism and low incidence, birth-21 years.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facility.

Publications: OCALI Brochure of Services, Services for Students with Visual Impairments Brochure, Ohio's Assistive Technology Distance Learning Project Brochure.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides literacy software for students with diverse learning needs.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Computer Training: Offers computer training on a statewide and regional basis to parents, teachers, and educational personnel. Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, training for instructors, screen reader, braille translation, scanning.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to any school district in Ohio.

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Ohio.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to parents of students with autism and low incidence disabilities ages birth to 21 years of age.

Personnel Preparation: OCALI, Bowling Green State University, Ohio SchoolNet, and the Ohio Department of Education offer Ohio's Assistive Technology Distance Learning Project. Courses may count towards a Masters in Education Degree with Specialization in Assistive Technology. This program is open to personnel in other states (www.oatdlp.org).

Professional Training: Offers various training programs throughout the year for parents and educational personnel serving students with autism and low incidence disabilities.

Ohio Department of Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

50 West Broad Street
9th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3363
Tel: (800) 422-1976 (Golden Buck-eye Card, discount program)
(614) 466-5500
(614) 466-6191 (TDD/TTY)
(614) 466-5741 (Fax)
www.GoldenBuckeye.com
E-mail: ODAMail@age.state.oh.us
Joan W. Lawrence, Director, (614) 995-1049 (Fax),
jlawrence@age.state.oh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help senior citizens live active, healthy, and independent lives, and to promote positive attitudes toward aging and older people.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: State of Ohio.

Ages served: 60 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Staff: 100.

Publications: Heritage (quarterly newsletter). Aging Connection (monthly newsletter for Aging Network Professionals). Finer With Age (monthly television program).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Employment, Financial Assistance, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Transportation Services to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides information and advice to local agencies.

Employment: Provides employment for seniors.

Financial Assistance: Funds area agencies that contract for services locally.

In-Home Services: Provides in-home health services and meals.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services. Refers to Rehabilitation Services Commission and Bureau of Service for the Visually Impaired.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

Ohio Department of Education: Office for Exceptional Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Tel: (614) 466-2650
(614) 728-1097 (Fax)

www.ode.state.oh.us

Mike Armstrong, Director,
mike.armstrong@ode.state.oh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer state funds for visually handicapped children in local public schools and to provide consultation on educational services.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:45 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation on educational services for children in public schools who are blind or visually impaired.

Education Services: Administers state funds for visually handicapped students in local public schools.

Ohio Department of Health: Bureau of Early Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

246 North High
Fifth Floor
Columbus, OH 43216-0118

Tel: (614) 644-8389
(614) 728-9163 (Fax)

www.ohiohelpmegrow.org/

E-mail: beis@gw.odh.state.oh.us

Debbie Wright, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Early Intervention Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To coordinate a community-based infrastructure that promotes transdisciplinary, family-centered services for expectant parents, newborns, infants, toddlers and their families.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Ages birth to three with or have risk for disability or delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 43,000.

Fee structure: Core services free, direct services may have cost on sliding fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Ohio's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Coordinates early intervention services in Ohio for disabled infants and toddlers birth to three years.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to families.

Ohio Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

3401 Mill Run Drive
Hilliard, OH 43026

Tel: (614) 527-6799
(614) 527-6763 (Fax)

www.ohioeye.org

E-mail: oot@ohioeye.org

Todd Baker, Executive Director, tbaker@ohioeye.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To preserve vision and prevent blindness.

Established: 1961.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps.

Funded by: Client fees.

Fee structure: Dues charged annually to members.

Publications: Insight Update.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Offers eye examinations by ophthalmologists through the National Eye Care Project. Provides protective sports eye equipment through the "Play Hard. Don't Blink" protective eyewear program.

Ohio Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

250 East Wilson Bridge Road
Worthington, OH 43085

Tel: (614) 781-0708
(614) 781-6521 (Fax)

www.ooa.org

E-mail: info@ooa.org

Richard Cornett, Executive Director, rick@ooa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote comprehensive eye care for Ohio residents, advance the profession of optometry and serve as the principal resource for public health information regarding the eyes and vision.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Perspectives (bi-monthly newsletter).

Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired and Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Independent living program**

■ **State rehabilitation services**

400 East Campus View Boulevard

Columbus, OH 43235-4604

Tel: (800) 282-4536 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In Ohio only.)

(614) 438-1250

(614) 785-5048 (TDD/TTY)

(614) 785-5010 (Fax)

www.rsc.ohio.gov

E-mail: RSC.Webmaster@rsc.state.oh.us

William A. Casto, Director,

william.casto@rsc.state.oh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with people with disabilities to assist them in achieving greater community participation through opportunities for employment and independence.

Established: 1970.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that creates or results in a substantial impediment to employment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: All offices and services are architecturally and programmatically accessible.

Clients served annually: 48,000 (RSC).

Fee structure: People are asked to contribute to the cost of their vocational rehabilitation services when possible; however, no one is ever denied services because of an inability to do so.

Publications: NewsNet, the official RSC bimonthly magazine available free of charge in print and/or audiocassette format. Visit

www.wwww.rsc.ohio.gov/Publications/rsc_pubreq.asp to subscribe or call toll-free (in Ohio) (800) 282-4536, ext. 1470 voice, (614) 785-5031 TTY or (614) 438-1470.

Additional information: RSC-BSVI/BVR is a state/federal program. Through its Bureau of

Vocational Rehabilitation, RSC also serves people who have other disabilities, such as mental, physical and emotional disabilities. For more information, call (800) 282-4536, ext. 1250 (from within Ohio only); (614) 438-1250 voice, (614) 785-5048 TTY or (614) 438-1257.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Employment: Offers vocational rehabilitation services to help people with disabilities get jobs.

Health/Medical: Provides referral to and assistance with medical and eye health services when appropriate.

Low Vision: Provides referral to and assistance with low vision evaluation, supplies and devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation services to Ohioans who are visually impaired and legally blind. Provides independent living services for people age 55 and older.

LOCAL OFFICES

Athens: 86 Columbus Road, Suite 103, Athens, OH 45701-1312

Canton: 401 Market Avenue North, Suite 200, Canton, OH 44702-1543

Cincinnati: 617 Vine Street, Suite 905, Cincinnati, OH 45202-2423

Cleveland: 113 St. Clair Avenue, Suite 600, Cleveland, OH 44114-1502

Columbus: 2012 Kenny Road, Suite 202, Columbus, OH 43221-3502

Dayton: One Elizabeth Place, SW10, Dayton, OH 45408-1445

Lakewood: 14650 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300, Lakewood, OH 44107-4210

Lima: 924 N. Cable Road, Lima, OH 45805-1798

Mansfield: 2281 Village Mall Drive, Suite A, Mansfield, OH 44906-1159

Portsmouth: 4304-B Old Scioto Trail, Portsmouth, OH 45662-6642

Toledo: 5533 Southwyck Boulevard, Suite 100, Toledo, OH 43614-1582

Youngstown: 242 Federal Plaza West, Suite 403, Youngstown, OH 44503-1210

Zanesville: 601 Underwood Street, Suite C, Zanesville, OH 43701-3771

Ohio State School for the Blind (OSSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **School for the blind**

5220 North High Street

Columbus, OH 43214

Tel: (614) 752-1152

(614) 752-1713 (Fax)

www.tlcf.osn.state.oh.us/ohiostate/main.htm

Louis A. Mazzoli, Superintendent,
lmazzoli@ossb.oh.gov
Janell Brown, Librarian, jbrown@ossb.oh.gov
Dennis W. Dillow, Building Construction
Superintendent, (614) 752-1428, (617) 752-1710 (Fax),
ddillow@ossb.oh.gov
Dawn C. Henslee, Nurse Supervisor and
Administrator, Student Services, (614) 995-3500, (614)
752-1504 (Fax), dhenslee@ossb.oh.gov
Belva G. Lamar, Business Administrator, (614) 752-1284,
(614) 752-1710 (Fax), bgoins-lamar@ossb.oh.gov
Gerard T. Marcom, Principal, gmarcom@ossb.oh.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide an effective educational experience through specialized curriculum, equipment, materials, and individualized, disability-specific instruction that develops each student's unique potential.

Established: 1837.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: State of Ohio Rules for Special Education.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-3:30 PM (school), 8:00 AM-5:00 PM (business offices).

Accessibility: Accessible facilities. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities. Students live in 5 cottages, 2 group homes, and student apartment.

Clients served annually: 130.

Staff: 134. Staff includes teachers; teacher aids; O&M instructors, therapists; youth leaders; and food service, custodial, maintenance, administration and business office personnel.

Publications: History of OSSB.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Braille, large type, textbooks.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, training for instructors, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to local school districts.

Counseling: Provides counseling.

Education Services: Provides general academic instruction for grades K-12.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to other services.

Parent Assistance: Parent assistance offered.

Ohio State University: College of Optometry, Vision Rehabilitation Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

338 West 10th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210
Tel: (614) 292-1104
(614) 688-4960 (Fax)
www.optometry.ohio-state.edu
E-mail: optometry@osu.edu

Roanne E. Flom, Chief, Vision Rehabilitation Service,
College of Optometry, flom.3@osu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide optimal, comprehensive vision and eye health care for patients through a team of faculty, staff, and interns who employ their collective specialized knowledge of the visual system in the patient's best interest, consistent with the Ohio State University's tradition of excellence in teaching, research, service and fiscal responsibility to the community.

Established: 1870.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Unrestricted.

Hours of operation: Weekdays.

Accessibility: Accessible location.

Clients served annually: 500.

Staff: 5. Four faculty optometrists (each with advanced training in low vision rehabilitation and each with over 20 years of low vision experience) work with fourth-year interns to meet patient needs.

Fee structure: Fees vary. Most medical insurance accepted.

Additional information: OSU Vision Rehabilitation Service specializes in working with persons with impaired vision to determine the most appropriate strategies for using vision. It is one of two entry points for the Ohio Bioptic Driving Program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts low vision assessments.

Assistive Products: Offers bioptic driving program and training in the use of visual assistive technologies.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers internships for optometrists.

Ohio State University: School of Teaching and Learning

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

333 Arps Hall
1945 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43210
Tel: (614) 292-2437 ((614)292-1257.)
(614) 292-7695 (Fax)
www.coe.ohio-state.edu/edtl/
Peter V. Paul, Visually Handicapped Program,
paul.3@osu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide education and professional development for prospective teachers.

Established: 1907.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio primarily, but international student body.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Accessibility: Mostly accessible.

Residential Facilities: Yes.

Fee structure: Tuition.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Master's, doctoral programs for teachers of children with visual impairments.

Professional Training: Offers pre-service and in-service professional development training.

Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries: Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

10600 Springfield Pike
Cincinnati, OH 45215
Tel: (800) 964-8206
(513) 771-4800
(513) 771-4959 (Fax)
www.cincinnati goodwill.org/

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Any handicap.

Residential Facilities: Facilities for adults.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers consultation and referral service, group work, and psychological testing.

Employment: Provides vocational training assistance, job support services. Offers programs for people with disabilities, including computer technology/office

procedures, watchmaking, food services, building maintenance, janitorial services.

Rehabilitation: Offers vocational training assistance.

Philomatheon Society of the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Social service organization

2701 W. Tuscarawas Street
Canton, OH 44708
Tel: (330) 453-9157
(330) 453-9157 (Fax)
www.my.raex.com/~philo
E-mail: philo@raex.com
Jerald Dessecker, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the social, recreational, and welfare needs of the blind of Stark County and surrounding areas.

Established: 1924.

County/District where located: Stark County.

Geographic area served: Stark, Harrison, Tusc, Carroll and Holmes Counties.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Accessibility: wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Endowments, private donations.

Staff: 1 part time.

Fee structure: \$7.50 annual membership dues.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices, canes. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille classes.

Library: Acts as a sub-lending agency of the government Talking Book program.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Recreation: Offers activity classes on Thursdays, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM.

Pilot Dogs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

625 West Town Street
Columbus, OH 43215-4496
Tel: (614) 221-6367
(614) 221-1577 (Fax)
www.pilotdogs.org
J. Jay Gray, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide guide dogs to blind persons and to train in the satisfactory use of such guide dogs.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada, Mexico, and other countries.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, physically and mentally capable.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory provided (room, board).

Funded by: Lions Clubs, private donations.

Publications: Pilot Light.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Trains and supplies dog guides for blind persons.

Prevent Blindness Ohio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Information/referral center**

1500 West Third Avenue
Suite 200

Columbus, OH 43212-2874

Tel: (800) 301-2020

(614) 464-2020

(614) 481-9670 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org/ohio/

E-mail: preventblindnessohio@compuserve.com

Sherill K. Williams, President and CEO,
preventblindnessohio@compuserve.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Services for eye exams and eyeglasses at little to no charge available for medically indigent at 200% of poverty.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Varies, service provided at client location.

Clients served annually: 6,000 in direct services.

Staff: 23. 13 staff at the state office in Columbus, 10 staff located throughout the other four office sites in Ohio.

Fee structure: Cost-recovery for direct services. Free services to medically indigent.

Publications: Eye health, eye disease, and safety print and video materials targeted at consumers of eye care and eye care patients.

Additional information: Call for more information 1-800-301-2020.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach to medically indigent communities, providing free eyeglasses and eye examinations to qualified recipients.

Health/Medical: Offers free eye examinations and eyeglasses for qualifying medically indigent individuals and vision screening programs.

Information and Referral: Provides general eye health and safety information.

Library: Maintains a full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in adult and children's vision screening and offers certification programs.

LOCAL OFFICES

Cincinnati: 246 McCoullough Street, Cincinnati, OH 45226, swohpbo@compuserve.com, Florine Postell, Director

Cleveland: 6867 Pearl Road, Suite 101A, Cleveland, OH 44130, neohpbo@compuserve.com, Darcy Downey, Director

Dayton: 313 South Jefferson Street, Suite 204, Dayton, OH 45402

Toledo: 1819 Canton Avenue, Toledo, OH 43624, nwohpbo@compuserve.com, Stefanie Spieth, Director

Radio Reading Services of Greater Cincinnati

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Radio reading station**

2045 Gilbert Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Tel: (513) 221-8558

(513) 221-2995 (Fax)

www.cincyblind.org

E-mail: info@cincyblind.org

Hank E. Baud, Ed.D., Executive Director,
hank.baud@cincyblind.org

John Mitchell, Director of Operations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for print-impaired people with visual, physical and/or learning disabilities by providing information services.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Greater Cincinnati area, including southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and southeastern Indiana.

Eligibility requirements: Print-impaired people with visual, physical and/or learning disabilities.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Clients served annually: 8000+.

Staff: 4.

Fee structure: No fees.

Publications: Viewpoint (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Became a part of Cincinnati Association for the Blind in 1998.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Daily broadcasts of news from local and national newspapers (Kentucky and Cincinnati Enquirer, Kentucky and Cincinnati Post) and other publications on radio station WRRS. May also be listened to via telephone. Voice Mail information service provided.

Samuel W. Bell Home for Sightless

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Residential facility

3775 Muddy Creek Road

Cincinnati, OH 45238

Tel: (513) 241-0720

(513) 241-1481 (Fax)

E-mail: swbellhome@fuse.net

Niles L. Hoff, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a residential home for sightless men and women and couples.

Established: 1925.

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind. Must be able to care for themselves.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (office), 24-hour attendant.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities for blind men, women, and couples.

Fee structure: Per-month charge per room and board.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Housing Services to older persons.

Housing Services: Operates a residence for blind adults, including seniors.

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio: Toledo Society for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1819 Canton Avenue

Toledo, OH 43624-1380

Tel: (800) 624-8378

(419) 241-1183

(419) 241-4510 (Fax)

www.sightcentertoledo.org

E-mail: sightcentertoledo.org

John W. Davies, Jr., Executive Director,

jdavies@sightcentertoledo.org

Mary Westphal, Director,

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services that maximize the independence of individuals who are visually impaired or blind and minimize the incidence of visual impairment through advocacy and prevention.

Established: 1923.

County/District where located: Lucas County.

Geographic area served: 16 counties of Northwestern Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 6,000.

Staff: 28.

Publications: Quarterly Newsletter/InSight.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Audiodescription: Offers some audiodescription services.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, family, peer, and group counseling.

Health/Medical: Low Vision Evaluation.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Offers low vision evaluation.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Provides children's services and vision stimulation.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service training program for universities, hospitals, interns, nursing homes, and related institutions.

Reading Services: Sight Center Audio Network broadcasts selections from 8 local publications 24 hours a day. Books, newspapers, other materials and shows available on Second Audio Program (SAP) channel of stereo television or vcr. Loaner equipment available to those with incompatible television/vcr. Newspapers read include the Monroe Evening News, Defiance Crescent News, Findlay Courier, Wood County Sentinel Tribune, Fremont News Messenger, Port Clinton News Herald, The Wall Street Journal.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services.

Southeast Ohio Sight Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

358 Lincoln Avenue
Unit A
Lancaster, OH 43130
Tel: (740) 689-9753
(614) 687-4541 (Fax)
E-mail: seosc@SEOhiosightcenter.org
John E. Sterba, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: Fairfield County.

Geographic area served: Southeastern Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment that interferes with independent functioning.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM and by appointment.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 5 full-time, 2 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter. Monthly calendar of events.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers adult and preschool vision screenings.

Assistive Products: Distributes ultraviolet shields, magnifiers, kitchen aids, and other adaptive equipment. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Employment: Provides job development and placement, job coaching.

Financial Assistance: Provides referrals for financial assistance with cost of medical care.

Information and Referral: Provides information on prevention and sight conservation.

Library: Functions as a Talking Books service agency.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Distributes closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs), magnifiers, home and kitchen adaptive equipment.

Preschool: Offers vision screenings for preschool-age children.

Professional Training: Provides staff in-service training.

Recreation: Offers therapeutic activities for socialization.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching in clients' homes.

Support Groups: Offers support groups and referrals to other services.

State Library of Ohio: Talking Book Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Library

274 East First Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201-3673
Tel: (800) 686-1531 (Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.)
(614) 644-6897 (Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.)
(614) 995-2186 (Fax)
www.winslo.state.oh.us/services/slotalk.html
Judith W. Bow, Head, Talking Book Division, Library
Services Division, jbow@sloma.state.oh.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be a lender and partner in the development of library services throughout Ohio, to promote resource sharing among libraries and library networks, and to provide specialized services to Ohio's citizens.

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness, visual handicap, physical handicap, or reading disability.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Ramps, braille signage, voice elevator directions.

Staff: 62 sublending agencies in Ohio, 11 repair groups.

Publications: Monthly newsletter for coordinators.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking book equipment, coordinates talking book service in Ohio, monitors two regional and 65 subregional lending agencies, oversees machine repairs.

UDS Low Vision Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

388 South Main Street
Suite 302
Akron, OH 44311-1064
Tel: (330) 996-4080
(330) 996-4181 (Fax)
www.udsakron.org
E-mail: creed@udsakron.org
Gary Knuth, Executive Director, gknuth@udsakron.org
Cheryl J. Reed, Clinical Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support people with disabilities and their caregivers by providing the highest quality customer-focused programs and services.

Established: 2001.

County/District where located: Summit County.
Geographic area served: Northeastern Ohio.
Eligibility requirements: Referral from eye care specialist.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Tues.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Budget: \$161,000.

Clients served annually: 275.

Staff: 4. Doctor of Optometry, Office Manager, O&M Specialist, Teacher of the Visually Impaired.

Fee structure: Contact UDS Low Vision Services for more information.

Publications: Parent organization, United Disability Services, publishes "Kaleidoscope Magazine" which explores the experience of disability through literature and fine arts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides low vision and functional vision assessment for multihandicapped children/adults, bioptic driving assessment, CCTV assessment.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Has a device loaner program.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in use of low vision devices and offers Northern Ohio bioptic driving program.

United States Braille Chess Association

See U.S. National Organizations.

University of Toledo: Early Childhood, Physical, and Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Postsecondary institution
- Research organization

2801 West Bancroft Street

Toledo, OH 43606

Tel: (419) 530-7733

(419) 530-7261 (Fax)

www.utoledo.edu/colleges/education/ece_phys_specialed.html

John R. Cryan, Interim Chair, jcryan@utnet.utoledo.edu

Pat Beckett, Academic Program Coordinator

Sakui Malakpa, Professor and Coordinator of the Vision Program, sakui.malakpa@utoledo.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Lucas County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Offers an undergraduate program in vision intervention. Specialist licensure

program. Master's and Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction with focus on vision.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Vision Center of Central Ohio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

1393 North High Street

Columbus, OH 43201

Tel: (614) 294-5571 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(614) 294-5576 (Fax)

www.visioncenter.org/

E-mail: vcco@visioncenter.org

Rebecca Noack, Executive Director,
rnoack@visioncenter.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: People with visually impairments and other disabling conditions, of all ages, who are able to benefit from services.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day for the residence; 8:00 AM-4:30 PM for other services. Some evening hours available for night bioptic drivers training.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory for adults who can provide own self care and are able to live in a group environment successfully.

Clients served annually: 2100.

Staff: 77.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Provides individualized training to meet client goals in technology, including software, hardware and adaptive tools. Database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Screen access software, Internet and e-mail, proprietary software at work sites for employment, notetakers.

Employment: Offers a wide array of individual and group programs to help people with disabilities determine appropriate careers and to secure meaningful, successful employment.

Health/Medical: Refers for some eye health services.

Low Vision: Provides clinical and functional assessments. Prescribes spectacles and evaluates the use of a variety of optical and non-optical aids.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening, keyboarding skills and training in the use of computer adaptations, closed-circuit television. Offers evaluation and training for candidates enrolled in the Ohio bioptic licensing program. Offers independent living program for people who are blind or visually impaired age 55 years and over.

LOCAL OFFICES

Cambridge: 1306 1/2 Woodlawn Avenue, Cambridge, OH 43725

Vision Support Services of Akron

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

325 East Market Street

Akron, OH 44304

Tel: (330) 253-2555

(330) 996-4088 (Fax)

www.vssakron.org

E-mail: info@vssakron.org

James T. Lenahan, Executive Director,

jimlenahan@vssakron.org

John Hatton, Communications Director,

jhatton@vssakron.org

Lisa Snyder, Independent Living Services,

ilp@vssakron.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the full potential of people with visual disabilities and build understanding and acceptance.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Summit County.

Geographic area served: Summit, Stark, and Portage Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind for classes. No requirements for other services.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessibility.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Fee structure: Fees to be announced for computer training.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Offers low vision devices and hand-held magnifiers for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in various levels of braille, its techniques, and uses.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers assistive technology support groups.

Employment: Provides work adjustment and work experience programs and referrals to state agency.

Information and Referral: Provides referral to appropriate agencies.

Rehabilitation: Offers workshops and classes. Offers full program in education, socialization, rehabilitation, and independent living for older adults.

LOCAL OFFICES

Akron: 25 North Fir Street, Akron, OH 44304

Vocational Guidance Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2239 East 55th Street

Cleveland, OH 44103

Tel: (216) 431-7800

(216) 431-5123 (Fax)

Brad E. Sommerfelt, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prepare people with barriers to employment for a brighter future.

Established: 1895.

County/District where located: Cuyahoga.

Geographic area served: Greater Cleveland.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with barriers to employment.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 6:45 AM-4:30 PM.

Additional information: Cleveland Skilled Industries merged with Vocational Guidance Services to better serve the community.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Operates in-house workshop to provide full-time employment opportunities.

VOICEcorps Reading Service (formerly Central Ohio Radio Reading Service)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

2955 West Broad Street

Columbus, OH 43204-2647

Tel: (614) 274-7650

(614) 274-9340 (Fax)

www.voicecorps.org
 E-mail: sturner@voicecorps.org
 Sandy O. Turner, Executive Director,
 sturner@voicecorps.org
 Mary Hiland, Director of Volunteers,
 mhiland@voicecorps.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be a high quality resource of information, education, and entertainment to those whose disabilities or condition would otherwise deny them access to such material so they can live a more independent, well-informed, and enriched life.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Franklin County.

Geographic area served: Central and Southeastern Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Cannot use standard print because of visual or physical disability.

Ages served: 15 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Accessibility: Completely accessible.

Clients served annually: 2,500.

Staff: 5 full-time and 3 part-time staff. Executive Director, Director of Volunteers, Director of Broadcast Operations, Administrative Secretary, Technical Producer, 2 part-time clerical staff.

Fee structure: No fee. Donations accepted.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides a 24-hour audiostreaming of broadcast service on website. Some teen magazines are available on demand on the website.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Accessibility to older persons.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers and other sources. Publications include the Columbus Dispatch, portions of the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Christian Science Monitor, and community newspapers.

Wood County Educational Service Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

639 South Dunbridge
 Bowling Green, OH 43402
 Tel: (419) 354-9010
 (419) 354-1146 (Fax)
 www.wood.k12.oh.us/

Judy Cernkovich, Teacher/Consultant, Preschool,
 Visually Impaired and Blind, wc_jrc@nwoca.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Wood County.

Geographic area served: 60-mile radius of Bowling Green, Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Vision 20/70 or greater in better eye after correction.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM (evening appointments available).

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Funded by: State funds.

Staff: 1 home-based preschool teacher.

Fee structure: Contract.

Publications: Brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides educational and low vision screening.

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach within 60-mile radius of Bowling Green.

Early Intervention: Provides instruction, adaptation, and materials to families of visually impaired children, birth to 5 years. Offers home-based programs and consultation with other programs.

Information and Referral: Available to schools and families.

Parent Assistance: Provides information and support to parents.

Preschool: Provides consultations in preschool setting to include children who are visually impaired or blind.

Written Communications Radio Service (WCRS) for the Print Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

1615 East Market Street
 Akron, OH 44305
 Tel: (330) 784-3393
 (330) 784-3698 (Fax)
 www.wcrs.org
 E-mail: dave_loyd@oet.pbs.org

David P. Loyd, Operations Director,
 dave_loyd@oet.pbs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Summit County.

Geographic area served: Summit, Stark, Portage, Medina, parts of Wayne, Ashland, Holmes, Tuscarawas, and Carroll Counties.

Eligibility requirements: People who are blind and severely physically handicapped.

Ages served: 0 to 110.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Handicapped Accessible.

Clients served annually: 6500.

Staff: 4. Executive Director, Operations Director, Program Director, Broadcast Technician.

Publications: Local newspapers and some nationally syndicated publications.

Additional information: WCRS has streaming and program sharing to help out people who are visually impaired in the community.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts material from magazines and about news, topics of national and personal interests, and travel. Publications include the Akron Beacon Journal, Canton Repository, Christian Science Monitor, The Reporter, and local newspapers.

Oklahoma

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Oklahoma Department of Human Services:
Aging Services Division
(800) 211-2116

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation
Services
(800) 845-8476

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Oklahoma State Department of Education:
Special Education Services
(405) 521-3351

Educational Services

Oklahoma State Department of Education:
Special Education Services
(405) 521-3351

Instructional Materials Center

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped
(800) 523-0288

Rehabilitation Services

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation
Services
(800) 845-8476

School for the Blind

Oklahoma School for the Blind
(877) 229-7136

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Little Light House
Narrative Television Network
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Little Light House
Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth:
Interagency Coordinating Council for Early
Childhood Intervention

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Oklahoma

Libraries

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Dean A. McGee Eye Institute
Northeastern State University: College of Optometry

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology (OAO)
Oklahoma Association of Optometric Physicians

Rehabilitation Agencies

Oklahoma League for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Oklahoma School for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Oklahoma ABLE Tech

Dean A. McGee Eye Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

608 Stanton L. Young Boulevard

Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Tel: (800) 354-3937

(405) 271-6060

(405) 271-4442 (Fax)

www.dmei.org

E-mail: DMEI-Clinicians@dmei.org

Rebecca Morgan, Ophthalmologist/Low Vision

Rehabilitation, (405) 271-1793, (405) 271-3680 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To combine excellence in clinical care, education, and vision research with humanitarianism and a concern for community.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Oklahoma county.

Geographic area served: Regional.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Funded by: Client fees, private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Offers comprehensive clinical low vision evaluations and, when appropriate, referrals to occupational therapy for rehabilitation and training in the use of low vision devices.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: South Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Texas.

Little Light House

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Infant/preschool agency

5120 East 36th Street

Tulsa, OK 74135

Tel: (918) 664-6746

(918) 664-2293 (Fax)

www.littlelighthouse.org

Marcia Mitchell, Executive Director, llhlady@aol.com

Michele D. Hartman, Director of Operations,

mhartman@littlelighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To glorify God by improving the quality of life for children with special needs, their families and communities.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Tulsa County.

Geographic area served: Tulsa and surrounding areas.

Eligibility requirements: Children ages 0-6 with special needs and/or developmental disabilities, including those who are blind or visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM (facility operations). Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-1:30 PM (school hours).

Accessibility: Wheelchair and handicapped accessible.

Publications: Milestones and Miracles (written by co-founder Marcia Mitchell, detailing the history and goals of The Little Light House).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides screening and further educational and therapeutic assessment upon entry into the program.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Children's books.

Computer Training: Speech output systems.

Counseling: Provides training in self-help areas as it pertains to preschool-age children.

Information and Referral: Makes available information and referral services regarding the Tulsa Metro area and surrounding communities.

Library: Operates a library for informational purposes for families, has braille books available for children who need them, as well as printed library books.

Parent Assistance: Provides referral and developmental training to parents as necessary, holds monthly parent meetings.

Preschool: Serves deaf, blind, learning disabled, and mentally retarded children, ages 0 through 6, with the Christian Preschool Curriculum.

Recreation: Provides an outdoor playground, an indoor gymnasium, and physical therapy.

Narrative Television Network

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5840 South Memorial Drive

Suite 312

Tulsa, OK 74145

Tel: (918) 627-1000

(918) 627-4101 (Fax)

www.narrativeTV.com

E-mail: narrative@aol.com

Jim W. Stovall, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make movies, television, home videos, and live theater accessible for blind and visually impaired people.

Established: 1988.

County/District where located: Tulsa County.

Geographic area served: National.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM; services available 24 hours a day.
Accessibility: Fully accessible.
Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs.
Fee structure: No fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Produces audiodescription for movies for cable television systems.
Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Northeastern State University: College of Optometry

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1001 North Grand Avenue
 Tahlequah, OK 74464
 Tel: (918) 456-5511
 (918) 458-2104 (Fax)
www.arapaho.nsuok.edu/~optometry/ie_index.html
 E-mail: nsuopt@nsuok.edu
 Linda E. Edmondson, A.M., O.D., Director of Low Vision Services, edmondso@nsuok.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Cherokee County.
Geographic area served: Northeastern Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri.
Eligibility requirements: No restrictions (priority given to Indian Health Service eligible patients).
Ages served: 0 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Staff: Optician, optometrist, optometry student, psychologist, social worker.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices. Products for sale on site.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Oklahoma ABLE Tech

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Sereteen Wellness Center
 1514 W. Hall of Fame
 Stilwater, OK 74078-2026
 Tel: (800) 257-1705 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (405) 744-9864
 (405) 744-2487 (Fax)
www.okabletech.okstate.edu
 E-mail: mljwell@okstate.edu
 Linda Jaco, Project Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate systems change to enhance the provision of, access to and funding for assistive technology so that individuals with disabilities can achieve their greatest potential.
Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Collaborates and offers training on assistive technology to all state agencies that serve individuals with disabilities.
Information and Referral: Assists people in finding information about assistive technology equipment and products as well as assistance in locating assistive devices, services and resources for funding for individuals with disabilities of all ages.
Legal Services: Provides free legal services to persons with disabilities needing assistance to access assistive technology.

Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology (OAO)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

401 West 15th Street, #825
 Austin, TX 78701
 Tel: (512) 370-1504 (Local)
 (512) 370-1637 (Fax)
 (800) 776-9726 (Toll-Free)
www.okeyenet.org/
 E-mail: oao@okeyenet.org
 Michael Duncan, Executive Director,
mike@txeyenet.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1986.
Mission: To promote and advance the science and art of medical eye care.
County/District where located: Garfield County.
Geographic area served: Oklahoma.
Clients served annually: 200.

Oklahoma Association of Optometric Physicians

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

4545 North Lincoln Boulevard, #105
 Oklahoma City, OK 73105
 Tel: (405) 524-1075
www.oaop.org
 E-mail: saundra@oaop.com
 Saundra Naifeh, Executive Director,
saundrag@worldnet.att.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth: Interagency Coordinating Council for Early Childhood Intervention

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

500 North Broadway
Suite 300
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Tel: (866) 335-9288
(405) 606-4900
(405) 524-0417 (Fax)
www.odl.state.ok.us/sinfo/oksg/ok_child.htm
Lisa Smith, Assistant Director, lsmith@occy.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate joint planning and coordination among agencies serving children.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Oklahoma County.

Geographic area served: Oklahoma.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: State Plan for Services to Children and Youth, Sooner Start (annual report).

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Provides planning and coordination for the implementation of early intervention services for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with developmental delays and disabilities. Does not provide direct services.

Preschool: Provides planning and coordination of programs and services.

Oklahoma Department of Human Services: Aging Services Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

2401 NW 23rd
Suite 40
Oklahoma City, OK 73107-2422
Tel: (800) 211-2116
(405) 521-2327
(405) 521-2086 (Fax)
www.okdhs.org/aging/

Roy R. Keen, Director, Aging Services Division, (405) 521-2083 (Fax), roy.keen@okdhs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve as a focal point for addressing the needs of elderly Oklahomans, to assist them to secure and maintain maximum economic and personal independence with dignity.

County/District where located: Oklahoma County.

Geographic area served: Oklahoma.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to persons with disabilities.

Publications: Resource Guide for Older Oklahomans, Resource Book for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Promotes the development of a comprehensive and coordinated services system to Oklahoma's elderly.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy, In-Home Services, Information and Referral to older persons.

In-Home Services: Administers programs providing nutrition services, in-home and supportive services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

3535 NW 58th Street
Suite 500
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
Tel: (800) 845-8476 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(405) 951-3400 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(405) 951-3529 (Fax)
www.okrehab.org/

John E. Orr, Commissioner
Elaine Boykin, Programs Manager for Independent Living and Instructional Services, Visual Services, reboykin@drs.state.ok.us

Preston Bryant, Business Enterprise Programs Manager, Visual Services, pbryant@drs.state.ok.us
Greg De Martra, Programs Field Representative for Customer Service, Visual Services, ghdemartra@drs.state.ok.us

Mark Kinnison, Field Services Coordinator, Visual Services, mkinnison@drs.state.ok.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to achieve productivity, independence, and an enriched quality of life.

Established: 1920.

Geographic area served: Oklahoma.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or significantly visually impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Fee structure: Variable, sliding scale.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment of independent living skills to develop individualized plans of instruction on activities of daily living, vocational evaluation, and low vision evaluation through contracted vendors.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, nonfiction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation services to organizations and service providers on vocational and independent living issues.

Counseling: Offers rehabilitation counseling through certified rehabilitation counselors. Refers to local resources where appropriate.

Employment: Provides career and skill counseling, vocational placement, vending facility training. Contracts for other employment-related services. Maintains job line. Post-secondary education may be provided to consumers as part of an approved individualized plan for employment.

Information and Referral: Provides general information about blindness and visual impairment and referrals to other resources.

Library: Maintains a library for blind and physically handicapped.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/field work placement in rehabilitation counseling, vocational rehabilitation, rehabilitation teaching, orientation and mobility training and holds workshops for interpreters for deaf-blind.

Reading Services: Daily Oklahoma, Tulsa World, USA Today, New York Times, Wall Street Journal.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in skills of daily living, home and personal management, communication, travel, and various adaptive skills. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

Oklahoma League for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

501 North Douglas Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73106-3124

Tel: (405) 232-4644

(405) 236-5438 (Fax)

www.olb.org

E-mail: info@olb.org

Lauren K. White, President/CEO, lwhite@olb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate economic independence and improve the quality of life of Oklahomans who are blind or visually impaired through the creation and sustention of a variety of employment opportunities and services.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: Oklahoma County.

Geographic area served: Oklahoma and Kansas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind/blind; 18 years or older.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:15 AM-3:45 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 18. President/CEO, Controller, Accounting Supervisor, Accounts Receivable Manager, Human Resource Manager, New Product Engineer, Director of Special Programs and Services, Director of Sales, Plant Manager, 2 Developmental Coordinators, 3 production supervisors, and 3 service contract supervisors.

Publications: OLB Viewpoint (newsletter).

Additional information: OLB has a strong manufacturing and assembly job structure. OLB is expanding in the service contract area. OLB is expanding in state and out of state.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to other agencies for some employment services.

Employment: Offers vocational evaluation, job retraining, job placement within the agency, and training in occupational skills.

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- National Library Service library

300 NE 18th Street
 Oklahoma City, OK 73105
 Tel: (800) 523-0288
 (405) 521-3514
 (405) 521-4672 (TDD/TTY)
 (405) 521-4582 (Fax)
www.library.state.ok.us
 E-mail: library@drs.state.ok.us
 Geraldine Adams, Director, (405) 522-0516,
gadams@drs.state.ok.us
 Vicky Golightly, Public Information Officer, (405)
 521-0526, vgolightly@drs.state.ok.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Oklahoma County.
Geographic area served: Oklahoma.
Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical or visual impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Accessibility: Fully accessible.
Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides braille and large-print textbooks and instructional aids and equipment to pre-K through 12th students all over the state.
Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.
Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons of all ages.

Oklahoma School for the Blind (OSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- School for the blind

3300 Gibson Street
 Muskogee, OK 74403
 Tel: (877) 229-7136 (Oklahoma only)
 (918) 781-8200
 (918) 781-8300 (Fax)
www.osb.k12.ok.us/index.html
 Karen Kizzia, Superintendent, kekizzia@drs.state.ok.us
 Robert Warren, Elementary/Secondary Principal
 Susan Young, Teacher/Coordinator, Marketing
 Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the educational needs of blind and visually impaired students from Oklahoma by helping them meet their maximum potential.
Established: 1897.
County/District where located: Muskogee County.
Geographic area served: Oklahoma.
Eligibility requirements: Educable resident of the state with a visual impairment, who is not adequately served in school district.
Ages served: 0 to 21.
Hours of operation: 24 hours a day.
Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.
Residential Facilities: Dormitories and on-site apartments.
Additional information: Also known as Parkview School.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.
Community Outreach Programs: Does statewide outreach to assist families, public school staff, other organizations.
Education Services: Offers academic programs from preschool through 12th grade, using an individual and prescriptive approach with accreditation comparable to a public school. Provides training in the use of technology.
Employment: Offers off-campus jobs, work-study jobs on campus, vocational training.
Library: Maintains library of braille, large-print, recorded formats.
Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.
Professional Training: In-service training provided during school year. Offers internship/fieldwork placement in special education, regular in-service training programs, short-term or summer training.
Recreation: Offers after-school programs, adapted physical education.
Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in independent living skills, assistive technology devices, social skills, tactile graphic skills.

Oklahoma State Department of Education: Special Education Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Part C early intervention agency
- State educational services

Oliver Hodge Memorial Education Building
 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
 Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599
 Tel: (405) 521-3351 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (405) 522-3503 (Fax)
www.sde.state.ok.us/home/defaultie.html

Misty Kimbrough, Assistant State Superintendent,
misty_kimbrough@sde.state.ok.us
Rex S. Howard, State Coordinator,
rex_howard@sde.state.ok.us
Mark Sharp, Associate Director and Part C Coordinator,
mark_sharp@sde.state.ok.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Oklahoma County.

Geographic area served: Oklahoma.

Eligibility requirements: For early intervention services, child must have one of the following: 50 percent delay in one area, 25 percent delay in two or more areas, or diagnosed syndrome that may result in delay.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and in-service training for public schools.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Oklahoma's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Administers supplemental state funds for visually impaired children attending public schools. Provides resource and program information through state coordinator.

Library: Distributes large-print books through Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Prevent Blindness Oklahoma

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

6 Northeast 63rd Street
Suite 150
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Tel: (405) 848-7123
(405) 848-6935 (Fax)

www.preventblindnessok.org

E-mail: nicole-pbo@coxinet.net

Diana Bonfiglio, Executive Director,
dianna-pbo@coxinet.net

Nicole Thomas, Director of Financial Development and Marketing, nic_pbo@swbell.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To preserve sight and prevent blindness for all Oklahomans.

Established: 1965.

Geographic area served: Oklahoma.

Eligibility requirements: All are eligible for these services.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 70,000.

Staff: 16.

Fee structure: \$10 per school to chart screen and \$10 per child to photoscreen.

Additional information: Affiliate of Prevent Blindness America.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health, and eye safety.

Library: Maintains a full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Texas.

Oregon

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Oregon Commission for the Blind
(888) 202-5463

Oregon DHS Seniors and People with
Disabilities
(800) 282-8096

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Oregon Department of Education: Office of
Student Learning and Partnerships
(503) 378-3600

Educational Services

Oregon Department of Education: Office of
Student Learning and Partnerships
(503) 378-3600

Instructional Materials Center

Oregon Text and Media Center for the
Visually Impaired
(503) 763-2413

Rehabilitation Services

Oregon Commission for the Blind
(888) 202-5463

School for the Blind

Oregon School for the Blind
(503) 378-3820

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Dog Guide Schools

Guide Dogs for the Blind

Information/Referral Centers

DB-LINK: The National Information Clearinghouse on
Children Who Are Deaf-Blind
Vision Northwest

Libraries

Oregon State Library Talking Book and Braille Services
(NLS)
Oregon Text and Media Center for the Visually
Impaired

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Devers Memorial Eye Clinic
Evelyn L. Jones Low Vision Rehabilitation Center,
Oregon Health Sciences University: Casey Eye
Institute
Pacific University Vision Centers
Pacific University: College of Optometry

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology
Oregon Optometric Physicians Association

National Organizations

DB-LINK: The National Information Clearinghouse on
Children Who Are Deaf-Blind
Mobility International USA
National Technical Assistance Consortium for Children
and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind

National Publishers

Blindskills

Postsecondary Institutions

Portland State University: School of Education

Radio Reading Stations

Golden Hours Radio, Oregon Public Broadcasting

Rehabilitation Agencies

Blind Enterprises of Oregon

Schools for the Blind

Oregon School for the Blind

Social Service Organizations

Independent Living Resources

Vision Northwest

Blind Enterprises of Oregon

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

6540 SE Foster Road

Portland, OR 97206

Tel: (503) 774-6387

(503) 774-0585 (Fax)

E-mail: blindent@aol.com

Tami L. Foss, Executive Director, tamifoss@aol.com

Jenny Williams, Marketing Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote opportunities for blind individuals to achieve their full potential.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Pacific Northwest.

Eligibility requirements: Blindness or visual impairment.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Staff: 8.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers workshop employment for blind and visually impaired persons. Embroidery products for sale on site.

Blindskills

See U.S./Canadian Publishers.

DB-LINK: The National Information Clearinghouse on Children Who Are Deaf-Blind

See U.S. National Organizations.

Devers Memorial Eye Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1040 NW 22nd Avenue

Portland, OR 97210

Tel: (503) 413-8499

(503) 413-7006 (Fax)

Linda Grana, Outreach Coordinator

State Technology Programs

Oregon Technology Access for Life Needs Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Runs Vision Screening Community Outreach Program to bring vision screening research and leading-edge diagnostics to Oregon populations most at risk for glaucoma.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Works with industry to accelerate the development of new technologies and pharmaceuticals for diagnosing and treating eye disease. Provides leading-edge diagnostics and monitoring equipment to patients from around the world with vision-threatening diseases.

Health/Medical: Screens senior Oregonians who are at high risk for glaucoma and diabetic eye disease.

Low Vision: Provides low vision resources.

Evelyn L. Jones Low Vision Rehabilitation Center, Oregon Health Sciences University: Casey Eye Institute

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

3375 Southwest Terwilliger Boulevard

Portland, OR 97239-4197

Tel: (503) 494-3098

(503) 494-2282 (Fax)

www.ohsu.edu/

John M. M. Boyer, Clinical Director, boyerjo@ohsu.edu

Michael L. Klein, M.D., Director, Macular Degeneration Center, (503) 494-3055, (503) 494-7233 (Fax), kleinm@ohsu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help each person remain independent as well as to provide ongoing support into the future.

Ages served: 3 to 103.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides detailed assessment of each person's needs.

Information and Referral: Refers to community resources and provides support services to the patient and family members.

Low Vision: Performs comprehensive low vision evaluations and provides counseling on how best to adapt to visual problems. Prescribes and dispenses a supply of low vision devices, including eyeglasses, magnifiers, telescopes, video devices and computer/video devices, and low vision magnifiers.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Golden Hours Radio, Oregon Public Broadcasting

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

7140 SW Macadam
Portland, OR 97219
Tel: (503) 293-1902
(503) 293-1919 (Fax)
www.opb.org/programs/goldenhours/index.html
Jerry D. De Launay, Manager, Golden Hours Radio,
jerry_delaunay@opb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

Geographic area served: Oregon and southwest Washington.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Broadcasts 24 hours a day.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Audiodescription: Describes PBS programs.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Radio information, book readings.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, recorded books, magazines. Publications include the Oregonian, Willamette Week, Statesman Journal, Eugene Register.

Guide Dogs for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

32901 SE Kelso Road
Boring, OR 97009
Tel: (800) 295-4050
(503) 668-2100
(503) 668-2141 (Fax)
www.guidedogs.com
E-mail: information@guidedogs.com
Steve Strand, Executive Director

Sue Sullivan, Admissions Manager, (415) 499-4035
(Fax), iadmissions@guidedogs.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide enhanced mobility to qualified individuals through partnerships with dogs whose unique skills are developed and nurtured by dedicated volunteers and a professional staff.

Established: 1942.

County/District where located: Clackamas County.

Geographic area served: United States and Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Must be at least 16 years old, legally blind, in need of assistance with mobility, an independent traveler, and able to participate in program.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 350.

Staff: All instructors are licensed by the California State Board, where parent organization is based.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Guide Dog News (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

San Rafael: Guide Dogs for the Blind, National Headquarters, 350 Los Ranchitos Rd, San Rafael, CA 94903

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Northwest Region Office (HKNC)

See Washington.

Independent Living Resources

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

2410 SE 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214-5308
Tel: (503) 232-7411
(503) 232-8408 (TDD/TTY) (TTY)
(503) 232-7480 (Fax)
www.ilr.org/
E-mail: ilrpxd@qwest.net
Sue Westwood, Executive Director, ilred1@yahoo.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the philosophy of independent living by creating opportunities, encouraging choices, advancing equal access, and furthering the level of independence for all people with disabilities.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

Geographic area served: Portland metropolitan area, including Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties.

Eligibility requirements: People with disabilities and their families and friends.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Fee structure: Fee for transcription services only.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Assists people with disabilities to obtain necessary support services and/or benefits from other sources in the community.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational, personal or business materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers training and community presentations regarding disability awareness, rights and culture. Tailors workshops to meet individual needs. An ILR newsletter is available upon request. Offers services to culturally diverse individuals with disabilities and their families.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides information, technical assistance, site evaluations, and advocacy throughout Oregon to individuals, businesses, and community members through its ADA Program.

Counseling: Offers counseling, using the self-help model, for people with disabilities to work together with ILR's peer counselors to explore options and to solve problems. Runs topic-specific peer support groups regularly.

Information and Referral: Provides information on transportation, housing, employment, adaptive equipment, accessibility modifications, resource collection, local and national resources and other programs and services for people with disabilities.

Recreation: Offers events and other social/recreational opportunities.

Support Groups: Offers both a women's support group and a men's support group for people with disabilities.

Mobility International USA (MIUSA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Technical Assistance Consortium for Children and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind (NTAC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

833 Southwest 11th Avenue

Suite 315

Portland, OR 97205

Tel: (503) 222-3937

(503) 243-6755 (Fax)

www.oreyemds.org

E-mail: oregonao@oreyemds.org

Nan Heim, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and improve the practice of medicine and surgery in relation to the eye.

Established: 1972.

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information to professionals and individuals with visual disabilities.

Oregon Commission for the Blind (OCB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

535 SE 12th Avenue

Portland, OR 97214

Tel: (888) 202-5463

(503) 731-3221

(503) 731-3224 (TDD/TTY)

(503) 731-3230 (Fax)

www.cfb.state.or.us

E-mail: ocbmail@state.or.us

Dacia Johnson, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation,
dacia.johnson@state.or.us

Mike Leith, Fiscal Manager, mike.leith@state.or.us

Pat Macdonell, Director, Orientation and Career Center
for the Blind, patricia.macdonell@state.or.us

Ray Milojevich, Business Enterprise Director,
ray.milojevich@state.or.us

Linda R. Mock, Administrator, Rehabilitation Services,
linda.mock@state.or.us

Winslow Parker, Technology Specialist, Technology
Center/Orientation and Career Center for the Blind,
winslow.parker@state.or.us

Frank Synoground, Assistant Director of Rehabilitation
Services/Older Blind Project,
frank.synoground@state.or.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind Oregonians in making informed choices to achieve full inclusion and integration into society through employment, independent living, and social self-sufficiency.

Established: 1937.

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

Geographic area served: Oregon.

Eligibility requirements: Meets criteria for legal blindness.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Residential Facilities: Apartment for residential students, available while attending Orientation and Career Center for the Blind.

Staff: 47 full-time, 5 part-time. Includes rehabilitation counselors, rehabilitation teachers, O&M instructors, low vision specialist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults, assists in job placement, job restructuring, adaptive equipment.

Counseling: Offers vocational and personal counseling and guidance. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers college preparatory program and remedial education. Accepts legally blind persons and multiply disabled persons.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, job retention, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending facility training. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Low Vision: Low vision specialist on staff.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service training programs; also open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers challenge course. Refers for other recreational/leisure services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, computer technology, typing, video magnifier, electronic mobility devices, and home management in client's home and community.

FIELD OFFICES

Coos Bay: Newmark Center, 2110 Newmark, Coos Bay, OR 97420, Jan Hearing, Counselor

Eugene: 541 Willamette, Room 408, Eugene, OR 97401, Sandy Gomes, Rehabilitation Assistant

Madras: 1520 NW Clackamas, Madras, OR 97741, Cate Evers

Medford: 228 North Holly, Medford, OR 97501, Dori Reinke, Rehabilitation Assistant

Salem: 670 Church Street SE, Salem, OR 97301, Steve Lamont, Rehabilitation Counselor

Oregon Department of Education: Office of Student Learning and Partnerships

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State educational services

Public Service Building

255 Capitol Street, NE

Salem, OR 97310-0203

Tel: (503) 378-3600

(503) 378-2892 (TDD/TTY)

(503) 378-5156 (Fax)

www.ode.state.or.us

E-mail: odefrontdesk@state.or.us

Nancy Latini, Assistant Superintendent,
nancy.latini@state.or.us

D. Jay Gense, Director, Low Incidence Programs, (503)
378-3598, jay.gense@state.or.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide technical assistance and support to educational programs serving children who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind.

Geographic area served: Oregon.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Identifies all children and youths who are or at risk of being deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance in support of mandated early intervention and special education services to children and youth who are deaf-blind from birth through age 21.

Counseling: Assists service providers and families in preparing students who are deafblind for quality lives in their communities.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Oregon's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Implements the highly specialized services needed in the provision of a free, appropriate, public education for learners who are deaf-blind residing in Oregon.

Library: Lends special education material, including braille and large-print books, tapes, tape recorders, talking books, and talking book machines needed for the education of visually impaired children.

Preschool: Offers home-based programs and consultant services for preschool visually impaired/multiply impaired infants and toddlers.

Oregon DHS Seniors and People with Disabilities

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

500 Summer Street, NE, E02

Salem, OR 97301-1073

Tel: (800) 282-8096 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(503) 945-5811

(503) 373-7823 (Fax)

www.dhs.state.or.us/seniors/

E-mail: gao.info@state.or.us

James D. Toews, Assistant Director, (503) 945-6478,

james.d.toews@state.or.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist seniors and people with disabilities of all ages to achieve well-being through opportunities for community living, employment, family support and services that promote choice, independence and dignity.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Oregon Optometric Physicians Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

4404 SE King Road

Milwaukie, OR 97222

Tel: (800) 922-2045

(503) 654-5036

(503) 659-4189 (Fax)

www.oregonoptometry.org

E-mail: info@oregonoptometry.org

Wayne Schumacher, Executive Director,

wayne@oregonoptometry.org

Lynne Olson, Administrative Assistant,

lynne@oregonoptometry.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advance the quality, availability, and accessibility of eye vision and related health care, to represent the profession of optometry, to enhance and promote the independent and ethical decision-making of its members, and to assist doctors of optometry in

practicing successfully in accordance with the highest standards of patient care.

Oregon School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

700 Church Street, SE

Salem, OR 97301

Tel: (503) 378-3820

(503) 373-7537 (Fax)

www.ode.state.or.us/osb/

E-mail: don.ouimet@state.or.us

Donald A. Ouimet, Director, don.ouimet@state.or.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational services and support to students with vision impairments, parents, and professionals by offering a continuum of services in diverse manners to meet individual needs.

Established: 1873.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Oregon.

Eligibility requirements: Students must be visually impaired with an individualized education program.

Ages served: 5 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24-hour residence program. School year plus summer program.

Accessibility: All areas accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 2 dormitories.

Clients served annually: 400.

Staff: 80.

Fee structure: All students receive free appropriate public education.

Publications: National Newspatch.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to professionals in visual impairment and related areas.

Education Services: Offers academic program with 24-hour residential program for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Information and Referral: Provides information to local school districts on educational issues concerning students who are blind or visually impaired.

Parent Assistance: Assists parents of students who are blind or visually impaired.

Oregon State Library Talking Book and Braille Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

250 Winter Street, NE
 Salem, OR 97301-3950
 Tel: (800) 452-0292 (Toll-free in Oregon)
 (503) 378-3849
 (503) 378-4276 (TDD/TTY)
 (503) 588-7119 (Fax)
 www.osl.state.or.us/home/tbabs/
 E-mail: tbabs_front@oslmac.osl.state.or.us
 Carolynn Avery, Program Manager,
 carolynn.m.avery@state.or.us
 Eugene R. Newbill, Machine Program Coordinator,
 (503) 378-4243,
 newbill_eugene@oslmac.osl.state.or.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the quality of life for and deliver library services to print-disabled Oregonians.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Oregon.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard printed material.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Clients served annually: 6800.

Staff: 9.5. 1 Program Manager/Librarian, 1 Readers' Advisor, 1 Machine Coordinator, 1 Machine Technician, 2 Circulation Technicians, 1 Institutional Liaison, 1 Volunteer Specialist, 1 Collection Management Specialist, 5 Fund Development Officers.

Fee structure: No fee.

Publications: Talking Book and Braille Newsletter (quarterly newsletter), Users Handbook, Subject Bibliographies.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book/cassette players, large-print books, audiocassettes, braille books, recorded and brailled magazines, and descriptive videos for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Oregon Technology Access for Life Needs Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Access Technologies, Inc.
 3070 Lancaster Drive NE
 Salem, OR 97305-1396
 Tel: (800) 677-7512 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state only)
 (503) 361-1201 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (503) 370-4530 (Fax)
 www.taln.org
 E-mail: ati@oregonvos.net
 Laurie Brooks, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers training and workshops on assistive technology.

Information and Referral: Provides information about assistive technology.

Oregon Text and Media Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

■ Library

Kuenzi Hall Room B6
 999 Locust Street NE
 Salem, OR 97303
 Tel: (503) 763-2413
 (503) 763-2979 (Fax)
 E-mail: larry.brown@wesd.org
 Larry C. Brown, Director, larry.brown@wesd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1958.

County/District where located: Marion County.

Geographic area served: Oregon.

Eligibility requirements: Current evaluation of visual impairment. Must meet Oregon Administrative Rules for visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM. Pacific Time.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Clients served annually: 900.

Staff: 3. Director, clerk/brailist, brailist/volunteer coordinator.

Fee structure: Fees for 504 students and non-public school placements. \$0.25/page plus \$1.50 each volume if bound for out-of-state sales.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes braille textbook (out-of-state only). Free to eligible in-state students.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks, recreational. Literary and Nemeth certified. Able to do foreign languages and computer code in braille.

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Oregon.

Library: Provides braille and large-print services, production and circulation.

Pacific University: College of Optometry

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2043 College Way
Forest Grove, OR 97116

Tel: (877) 722-8648

(503) 352-2020

(503) 352-2929 (Fax)

www.opt.pacificu.edu/test/

John A. Smith, Coordinator, Low Vision Services,
smithjl@pacificu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the eye care needs of the public through instruction, clinical experience and research, and by coordinating the provision of vision care services by optometric students.

County/District where located: Metropolitan Portland area.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Tues.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Low Vision Clinic hours vary.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Funded by: Client fees.

Staff: Optometrist; optician.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells various low vision devices only after low vision evaluation. Products for sale on site.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides individual consultations as a result of low vision evaluations.

Health/Medical: Conducts general vision and eye health evaluations.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Pacific University Vision Centers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2043 College Way
Forest Grove, OR 97116

Tel: (503) 357-6151

www.pacificu.edu/

Leland Carr, Dean

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Multnomah County.

Geographic area served: Pacific Northwest.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sat. 10:00 AM-2:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible building, elevators, doors, restrooms.

Fee structure: Fee for service with sliding scale adjusted for income.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts low vision evaluation, including on-site assessment of skills related to vision. Provides full eye health and vision assessment with special services, including low vision services, for those over 55.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices when prescribed by the doctor. Products for sale on site.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults with teachers and professionals working with visually impaired people.

Early Intervention: Operates a pediatric clinic to provide early intervention services.

Health/Medical: Performs testing for ocular disease beyond the routine primary care evaluations.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers continuing education programs for eye care professionals.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Cornelius: Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Clinic, 44 N. 11th Street, Cornelius, OR 97113, Lynn Ueshiro, Director

Forest Grove: Forest Grove Vision Center, Jefferson Hall, 1st Floor, 2043 College Way, Forest Grove, OR 97116, Lynn Ueshiro, Director

Portland: Northeast Eye Center, 5329 NE MLK Jr. Boulevard, Portland, OR 97211, Lorne Yudcovitch, Director

Portland: Portland Vision Center, 511 SW 10th Avenue, Portland, OR 97205, Carole Timpone, Director

Portland: Southeast Eye Center, 3653 SE 34th Svenue, Portland, OR 97202, Lorne Yudcovitch, Director

Portland State University: School of Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Department of Special Education
P.O. Box 751

Portland, OR 97207-0751

Tel: (800) 547-8887

(503) 725-5495

(503) 725-5599 (Fax)

www.ed.pdx.edu/spedcoun/VIL

E-mail: bickford@pdx.edu

James Bickford, Coordinator, Licensure Program -

Visually Impaired Learner

Cheryl Grindol, Assistant Professor, (503) 725-4639,
grindolc@pdx.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop those competencies needed by prospective teachers so that they may help their students function with their sighted peers in the least restrictive environment possible.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Bachelor's Degree.

Fee structure: Tuition.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Master's Degree in Education: Special Education Licensure Programs in Visually Impaired Learner; Orientation and Mobility Specialist.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center (VAPSHCS-American Lake BRC)

See Washington.

Vision Northwest

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Social service organization

9225 SW Hall Boulevard

Suite G

Tigard, OR 97223

Tel: (800) 448-2232

(503) 684-8389

(503) 684-9359 (Fax)

www.visionnw.com/

E-mail: info@visionnw.com

E. Maizels, Executive Director

K. Erhenshaft, Program Coordinator

Gloria Patrick, Operations Manager

Martha Zanger, Public Relations Director, Volunteer
Manager, marthaz@visionnw.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote quality of life to those affected by vision loss.

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Washington County.

Geographic area served: Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Eligibility requirements: Severe visual impairment.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri 8:00 AM-4:30 PM. Low Vision Accessory Store: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Staff: 4.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes talking watches and clocks, personal care items, magnifiers, playing cards in large format and braille, braille watches, and many other items.

Audiodescription: Maintains a descriptive video lending library.

Counseling: Offers counseling for adjustment to severe vision loss and peer support groups.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Distributes low vision devices through the Low Vision Accessory Store.

Pennsylvania

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Pennsylvania Department of Aging
(717) 783-1550

Pennsylvania Department of Labor and
Industry, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation,
Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services
(800) 622-2842

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare:
Office of Mental Retardation, Division of
Early Intervention Services
(717) 783-7213

Educational Services

Pennsylvania Training and Technical
Assistance Network—Harrisburg Office
(800) 360-7282

Pennsylvania Training and Technical
Assistance Network—King of Prussia Office
(800) 441-3215

Pennsylvania Training and Technical
Assistance Network—Pittsburgh Office
(800) 441-3215

Instructional Materials Center

Pennsylvania Training and Technical
Assistance Network—Harrisburg Office
(800) 360-7282

Pennsylvania Training and Technical
Assistance Network—King of Prussia Office
(800) 441-3215

Pennsylvania Training and Technical
Assistance Network—Pittsburgh Office
(800) 441-3215

Rehabilitation Services

Pennsylvania Department of Labor and
Industry, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation,
Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services
(800) 622-2842

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Association of Women's Ministries of the Pleasant Hills
Community Church
Bower Hill Braille Foundation
Capital Area Intermediate Unit
Greater Wilkes-Barre Association for the Blind
Juniata Association for the Blind
Lehigh Valley Braille Guild
Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Free
Library of Philadelphia
North Central Sight Services
Pittsburgh Vision Services
Radio Information Service

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Philadelphia Unit

Educational Agencies

Allegheny Intermediate Unit: Special Education
Division
Capital Area Intermediate Unit

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Overbrook School for the Blind
Saint Lucy Day School for Children with Visual
Impairments

Information/Referral Centers

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Blair County Association for the Blind and Visually
Handicapped
Keystone Blind Association

Overbrook School for the Blind
 Venango County Association for the Blind
 Vision and Blindness Resources - Erie Center

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
 Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (NLS)
 Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Free
 Library of Philadelphia (NLS)
 Northland Public Library
 Venango County Association for the Blind

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Cambria County Association for the Blind and
 Handicapped
 Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Central Susquehanna Sight Services
 Fayette County Association for the Blind
 Keystone Blind Association
 Moore Eye Foundation: Low Vision Rehabilitation
 Service
 Penn Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation and
 Research
 Pennsylvania College of Optometry
 Temple University Hospital: Ophthalmology
 Department
 Visual Impairment and Blindness Services of
 Northampton County, Inc.
 William Feinbloom Vision Rehabilitation Center

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

American Blind Bowling Association

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Pennsylvania Academy of Ophthalmology
 Pennsylvania Optometric Association

National Organizations

American Blind Bowling Association

National Publishers

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired

Postsecondary Institutions

Kutztown University: Department of Special Education
 Pennsylvania College of Optometry
 University of Pittsburgh: Department of Instruction
 and Learning

Radio Reading Stations

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired
 Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Radio Home Visitor
 Radio Information Service
 WRRS/RADPRIN of Lehigh Valley

Rehabilitation Agencies

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired
 Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Beaver County Association for the Blind
 Berks County Association for the Blind
 Bucks County Association for the Blind
 Butler County Association for the Blind
 Cambria County Association for the Blind and
 Handicapped
 Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Central Susquehanna Sight Services
 Chester County Association for the Blind
 Fayette County Association for the Blind
 Greater Wilkes-Barre Association for the Blind
 Hazelton Blind Association
 Indiana County Blind Association
 Juniata Association for the Blind
 Keystone Blind Association
 Lackawanna County Association for the Blind
 Lawrence County Association for the Blind
 Montgomery County Association for the Blind
 North Central Sight Services
 Pennsylvania Association for the Blind
 Pennsylvania Lions Beacon Lodge Camp
 Pittsburgh Vision Services
 Somerset County Blind Center
 South Central Blind Association
 Susquehanna Association for the Blind and Vision
 Impaired
 Tri-County Association for the Blind
 Vision and Blindness Resources - Erie Center
 Visual Impairment and Blindness Services of
 Northampton County, Inc.
 Westmoreland County Blind Association
 York County Blind Center

Residential Facilities

Edith R. Rudolphy Residence for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Overbrook School for the Blind
 Royer-Greaves School for Blind
 Saint Lucy Day School for Children with Visual
 Impairments
 Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children

Social Service Organizations

Blair County Association for the Blind and Visually
 Handicapped
 Blind Relief Fund of Philadelphia
 Cambria County Association for the Blind and
 Handicapped
 Vision and Blindness Resources - Erie Center

State Technology Programs

Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology

Allegheny Intermediate Unit: Special Education Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

475 East Waterfront Drive

Homestead, PA 15120

Tel: (412) 394-5714

(412) 394-5783 (Fax)

www.aiu3.net

Vaughn Moreau, Director, vaughnmorau@aiu3.net

Lynn Murphy, Supervisor, Blind/Vision Impaired Support

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support and assist local school districts in providing every child equal access to a quality education.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: 42 school districts in Allegheny County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides psychological assessments of ability, achievement and social and emotional status for students ages 3 to 21 years.

Assistive Products: Provides specialized materials, technical assistance, technology support, assessment, acquisition, and training in the use of assistive devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults and collaborates with regular classroom teachers, agencies, and parents. Provides specialized equipment for students who are blind or visually impaired. Offers group training.

Early Intervention: Provides in-depth assessment and early intervention services through the Early Childhood and Family Support Services/DART (discover, assessment, referral, and tracking) program.

Education Services: Works in partnership with the school districts in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit area to provide direct services for students with special needs in the form of classroom and itinerant teachers, three support centers, psychologists, clinicians, and supervisors. Provides specially designed instruction to students whose visual impairment adversely affects their educational performance. Teaching activities, including orientation and mobility instruction, focus on the acquisition of specific competencies which aid the student in compensating for vision loss.

Employment: Provides unified and coordinated transition services for youths with disabilities through a county service delivery system, with the objective of assisting them in realizing their goals for independent living, training, and careers.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility instruction.

Preschool: Offers services to preschoolers with special needs and their families in a variety of settings, including homes, day care or preschool centers, and Head Start programs.

American Blind Bowling Association

See U.S. National Organizations.

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired (ASB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Information/referral center

■ National publisher

■ Radio reading station

■ Rehabilitation agency

919 Walnut Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Tel: (215) 627-0600

(215) 922-0692 (Fax)

www.asb.org

E-mail: asbinfo@asb.org

Patricia C. Johnson, CEO & President,

pjohnson@asb.org

John Corrigan, Manager, RICB & Recorded Periodicals,

jcorrigan@asb.org

Dolores Ferrara-Godzieba, Director, Production &

Custom Braille, dfgodz@asb.org

Patti Lariccia, Manager of Rehabilitation,

plariccia@asb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote self-esteem, independence, and self-determination in people who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1874.

County/District where located: Philadelphia County.

Geographic area served: Southeastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey.

Eligibility requirements: Requirements vary.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 55. ASB is made up of 55 employees—over one-third of whom are blind or visually impaired—and benefits from approximately 30,000 hours of service from 200 volunteers each year.

Fee structure: State reimbursement or private pay at hourly fee for service rates.

Publications: Visions, the quarterly newsletter of Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

Additional information: Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired (ASB) is the largest non-profit organization in Southeastern Pennsylvania

serving people who are blind and visually impaired. With roots dating to 1874, ASB promotes self-determination and independence and provides a full spectrum of rehabilitation and life-skills education, including computer training, gardening, support groups and outreach to special populations. ASB also operates a radio reading service 24 hours a day, provides monthly recordings of more than two dozen popular magazines and produces some nine million pages of braille each year. For more information, call 215-627-0600 or visit ASB online at www.asb.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production, Community Outreach Programs to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Books, over two dozen magazines on tape by subscription, braille and large print statements, professional journals.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides information about living with a visual impairment through informational programs at senior centers; speakers for corporate, community, and professional organizations; and distributes information on eye care, blindness prevention and resources at employer and community health fairs.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Offers support groups, educational and vocational evaluation, escort service to medical appointments and shopping, volunteer visitors for house-bound persons.

Employment: Offers training in computer skills using adaptive aids.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, selected magazines, and programs especially suited to blind and visually impaired people. Publications include all Philadelphia area newspapers and the New York Times.

Rehabilitation: Offers a pre-vocational center-based program to evaluate client skills and provide blindness adjustment training and communication instruction through Guiding Light for the Blind.

Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Radio reading station
- Rehabilitation agency

614 North 13th Street
Allentown, PA 18102-2199

Tel: (610) 433-6018
(610) 433-4856 (Fax)
www.abvi.org
E-mail: abvilc@fast.net

Kathleen R. Meckes, Executive Director,
abvikrm@fast.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide and coordinate preventive, educational, social and rehabilitation programs concerning vision loss. Our goal is to assist each individual and his/her family to achieve their greatest potential.

Established: 1928.

County/District where located: Lehigh County, Allentown.

Geographic area served: Lehigh County and Southern Carbon County.

Eligibility requirements: Visual eligibility for rehabilitation and social services: 20/70 or less in better eye with correction.

Ages served: 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Clients served annually: 587.

Staff: 15 employees + volunteers. 8 full-time; 7 part-time.

Fee structure: Fees for transportation service only.

Publications: Donor and Client Newsletters. Brochure explaining services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs, Counseling, Employment, Health/Medical, Orientation and Mobility, Reading Services, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells assistive aids and devices. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille classes.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Requested material.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts near and far vision screening at approximately 80 centers. Offers films, pamphlets, educational seminars, and a volunteer speaker's bureau. Utilizes all communications media to provide the public with accurate information pertaining to eye care and the prevention of blindness.

Counseling: Offers information and referral, casework, adjustment to blindness and peer support groups.

Employment: Offers job readiness training for employment.

Health/Medical: Offers near and far vision screening and public education.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility instruction.

Reading Services: Distributes Radprin Radio Reading receiver.

Recreation: Offers therapeutic social and recreational activities and various types of exercise programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching and instruction in daily living skills.

Support Groups: Offers support groups in adjustment to blindness.

Association of Women's Ministries of the Pleasant Hills Community Church

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

199 Old Clairton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-3997

Tel: (412) 655-2000 (Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.)
(412) 655-8043 (Fax)

Annette W. Brown, Chairperson, Vision Aid Project and Recording, (412) 655-4379, annebrown@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To make the printed word available to those with vision problems or dyslexia through provision of braille or tape recordings.

Established: 1955.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Low vision, blind or dyslexia conditions impeding access to written word.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Volunteer staff works at home at their convenience.

Staff: All volunteer staff.

Fee structure: All labor is free, but user must pay at-cost charge for tapes or thermoform copy for braille.

Additional information: Recordings and braille provided to anyone with vision problems or dyslexia, but service used mostly by students at all levels from elementary through graduate school.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, any requests such as fiction, religion, recipes, and addresses.

Beaver County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

616 Fourth Street
Beaver Falls, PA 15010

Tel: (724) 843-1111
(724) 843-8886 (Fax)

E-mail: bcab@forcomm.net

Fay Lentz, Executive Director

Janice Agudio, Program Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services relating to the general welfare of the blind and visually impaired community to achieve optimum physical and emotional independence, and the prevention of unnecessary blindness.

Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Beaver County.

Geographic area served: Beaver County.

Eligibility requirements: Blind and visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 8 full-time, 300 volunteers.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers eye safety programs in schools.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Counseling: Offers counseling to newly blind persons, to parents, or clients.

Early Intervention: Offers services for children age birth through 3 years.

In-Home Services: Offers chore services.

Information and Referral: Provides information on all visual problems, eye safety, prevention of blindness.

Recreation: Offers social activities, crafts, field trips.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in life skills, personal management, and offers housing assistance.

Support Groups: Facilitates a support group for people with low vision.

Transportation: Offers transportation services.

Berks County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2020 Hampden Boulevard
Reading, PA 19604-1499

Tel: (610) 375-8407
(610) 375-6467 (Fax)

E-mail: berksblind2020@msn.com

David R. Neideigh, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for individuals with blindness in Berks County.

County/District where located: Berks County.

Geographic area served: Berks County.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers preschool vision screening to detect deviations from normal vision.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers eye safety program and informational lectures.

Employment: Provides on-site employment opportunities for blind and visually impaired individuals.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other services.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers games, outdoor activities, various outings.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in orientation and mobility training, daily living skills, braille.

Blair County Association for the Blind and Visually Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Social service organization

300 Fifth Avenue

Altoona, PA 16602-2730

Tel: (888) 912-5463

(814) 944-2021

(814) 944-3197 (Fax)

E-mail: bcab@altoonanet.com

Marty Sekerak, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To act as a member agency of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind for the support, care, training, and rehabilitation of blind persons, prevention of blindness, and conservation of sight.

Established: 1953.

County/District where located: Blair County.

Geographic area served: Blair and Clearfield Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind (acuity not more than 20/70 in better corrected eye). Income guidelines, under sub-contract.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Ground floor, no stairs. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds, United Way.

Clients served annually: 100.

Staff: 7. Office and case workers.

Publications: Newsletter (quarterly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats.

Health/Medical: Offers eye safety program for preschools and preschool vision screenings.

In-Home Services: Offers chore services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other services.

Library: Provides talking book applications and maintains an on-site lending library for descriptive videos and cassette books.

Preschool: Provides preschool screening program.

Recreation: Provides recreation services.

Transportation: Offers transportation services to clients.

Blind Relief Fund of Philadelphia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

551 Walnut Lane

Philadelphia, PA 19128

Tel: (215) 487-1444

(215) 487-2024 (Fax)

www.blindrelieffund.org/

E-mail: brfop@aol.com

Sister Joanne Uetz, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the material, financial and emotional needs of blind Philadelphians, and to improve the quality of their lives.

Established: 1909.

Geographic area served: Philadelphia.

Eligibility requirements: Philadelphia resident; legally blind.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, private donations.

Staff: 3 full-time and 1 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides assistance with food, clothing, medication, eyeglasses, canes, sensory aids, rent, utility bills, furniture and appliances, cleaning services and more. Offers individual counseling.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Recreation: Refers for residential summer camp. Holds an annual summer outing.

Bower Hill Braillists Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

70 Moffett Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Tel: (412) 343-3667

(412) 882-0164 (Fax)

E-mail: phgindex@usaor.net

Priscilla H. Getty, Librarian, phgindex@usaor.net

Laura Kesel, Music Braille, Lending Library

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide brailled material for the blind.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Primarily United States.

Eligibility requirements: Need for brailled materials.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Volunteers work from home.

Staff: All volunteer staff.

Fee structure: Students free. Fee for personal or business materials.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Requested material.

Library: Maintains a lending library.

Bucks County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

400 Freedom Drive

Newtown, PA 18940

Tel: (800) 472-8775

(215) 968-9400

(215) 968-2127 (Fax)

E-mail: bucks.blind@verizon.net

Elaine R. Welch, Executive Director,

elaine.welch@verizon.net

Donna M. Berry, Social Worker,

donna.berry2@verizon.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1945.

County/District where located: Bucks County.

Geographic area served: Bucks County.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired resident of Bucks County.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$625,000.

Clients served annually: 850.

Staff: 21.7 full-time, 14 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Bi-monthly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Housing Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides daily living skills assessments. Offers vision and hearing screenings.

Assistive Products: Sells watches, talking clocks, non-prescription low vision devices, and recreational products. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in health fairs and distributes newsletters.

Computer Training: Provides vocational and non-vocational computer training. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance and consultation to private businesses and public agencies on matters specific to vision loss.

Counseling: Offers evaluation, individual/group counseling, case management, support groups, chore service in the home, advocacy.

Housing Services: Provides housing assistance for seniors in coordination with Bucks County Area Agency on Aging and integration into senior centers.

Information and Referral: Provides information about all state and local service providers. Does referrals and follows-up.

Library: Maintains a lending library of audio books, described videos, and training materials.

Low Vision: Provides magnifiers, closed circuit televisions, writing guides, bold-line paper, shields.

Recreation: Offers adult recreation programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in home management and personal management, braille, handwriting, typing, remedial education in client's home and community. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

Butler County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

308 West Cunningham Street

Butler, PA 16003-0468

Tel: (724) 287-4059

(724) 287-4888 (Fax)

www.pabind.org

E-mail: bcbaer@zoominternet.net

Elizabeth Robertshaw, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to residents of Butler County who are legally blind or visually impaired.

County/District where located: Butler County.

Geographic area served: Armstrong and Butler Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers prevention of blindness program, remedial eye care program.

Counseling: Provides support groups and counseling services. Provides light chore casework, assists clients within their home and community. Provides escorted transportation to medical facilities, banks, grocery stores and local agencies.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency
- Social service organization

211 Central Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15902

Tel: (814) 536-3531
(814) 539-3270 (Fax)

www.ccabh.com

E-mail: ccabh@ccabh.com

Richard C. Bosserman, President,
rbosserman@ccabh.com

Douglas A. Hughes, Director of Operations,
dhughes@ccabh.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop and support an environment for persons with disabilities which promotes vocational and employment training, independence, and community involvement through rehabilitative, recreation and low-vision services, and education for the prevention of blindness.

Established: 1927.

County/District where located: Cambria County.

Geographic area served: Cambria County.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, visual acuity of 20/70 or less. For vocational or educational services, mental or physical disabling conditions determine eligibility.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 42. Uses volunteers in addition to staff.

Fee structure: No fee charged.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides life skills evaluation.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation. Offers individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling and placement in school. Provides referral to community service or other counseling/social work services. Provides family and peer counseling for seniors.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, job retention, work centers. Provides vocational placement, follow-up service, personal work adjustment training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services to community.

Low Vision: Provides low vision services for seniors. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Family support available.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts activities and hobby groups. Refers for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Offers programs for vocational/skill development, pre-vocational skill development, social/personal development. Accepts emotionally disturbed, learning disabled, and mentally retarded persons. Provides training in skills of daily living and use of adaptive devices for seniors.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Ebensburg: 175 Industrial Park Road, Ebensburg, PA 15931, asmith@cabproducts.com

Capital Area Intermediate Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Educational agency

55 Miller Street
Summerdale, PA 17093-0489

Tel: (717) 732-8400
(717) 732-8422 (TDD/TTY)
(717) 732-8414 (Fax)

www.caiu.k12.pa.us

Rosemary Holecki, Supervisor, Visually Impaired Program, rholecki@caiui.org

Cindy Wolfe, Supervisor, Preschool, cwolfe@caiui.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide expertise and leadership in the development, coordination, and delivery of quality educational programs and services.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Cumberland County.

Geographic area served: Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry, northern York Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Determined through multidisciplinary team assessment. Infants follow prescribed federal regulations implemented by mental health/mental retardation office.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:15 PM.

Staff: 11 teachers, consulting therapists available for infants and preschool children.

Fee structure: Fees vary.

Publications: Brochures and newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides orientation and mobility assessment.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational and other materials for students.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Services provided as needed.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services.

Education Services: Provides instruction in all developmental areas, specialized curriculum.

Employment: Transition services available.

Information and Referral: Refers to other agencies, optometrists, ophthalmologists.

Parent Assistance: Provides printed assistance materials packet.

Professional Training: Professional development services provided throughout the year.

Established: 1941.

County/District where located: Delaware County.

Geographic area served: Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey.

Eligibility requirements: Determined by program area and service offered.

Ages served: 15 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: On-site supervised dormitory for students in rehabilitation and computer training programs.

Budget: \$2,000,000.

Clients served annually: 1,000.

Staff: 65 employees, plus volunteers. Professional and non-professional. Also uses volunteers.

Fee structure: If any, fees are determined by program or service.

Publications: News & Views (newsletter), brochures.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Assistive Products, Community Outreach Programs, Counseling, Employment, In-Home Services, Recreation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers low vision, and vocational evaluation services.

Assistive Products: Operates a store offering a large variety of assistive products, both low tech and high tech, for blind and visually impaired persons. See our catalog at www.cbvi.net.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides information about blindness, services for the blind, and prevention of blindness through informational programs at senior centers, schools and speakers for corporate, community, and professional organizations. Distributes information on eye care and blindness prevention at employer and community health fairs.

Computer Training: Offers an intensive 10-week course featuring instruction from beginning to advanced level computer operations. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. All major software programs from Microsoft, including Microsoft XP, Office Suite-XP Professional version, e-mail, Internet usage, etc.

Counseling: Provides vocational assessment and evaluation, career guidance and counseling, social evaluation, casework counseling and services, life skills support groups, and referral to community services.

Employment: Provides vocational assessment and career exploration services, career counseling, occupational skills development, employability skills training, job placement, follow-up and transitional

Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

100 West 15th Street

Chester, PA 19013

Tel: (610) 874-1476

(610) 874-6454 (Fax)

www.cbvi.net

E-mail: rosemary.keefe@cbvi.net

Robert M. Nelson, Executive Director,

bob.nelson@cbvi.net

Rosemary D. Keefe, Communications Coordinator,

rosemary.keefe@cbvi.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people in the Delaware Valley to prevent, prepare for, or adapt to vision loss in order to achieve independence.

services. CBVI also offers employment opportunities to people who are blind or visually impaired as technicians and customer service representatives through government contracts.

In-Home Services: Offers in-home rehabilitation, chore, and escort services for seniors.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training to professionals with blind clientele, and intern placement opportunities for college and graduate students.

Recreation: Offers recreational activities for newly blinded groups, field trips, bell choir, weekly art classes, day camp. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other recreation services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal adjustment to blindness including communication skills, home management, orientation & mobility training, and sensory training. Offers computer access technology training, job placement services, summer transitional program for high school students with vision loss. Refers, provides consultation to other agencies for other rehabilitation services.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

SPECIAL OFFICES

Bensalem: 4201 Neshaminy Boulevard, Bensalem, PA 19020

Fairless Hills: 514 South Oxford Valley Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030

Philadelphia: The Strawbridge Building, 20 North 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Central Susquehanna Sight Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

348 Market Street

Sunbury, PA 17801

Tel: (888) 646-6644

(570) 286-1471

(570) 286-6005 (Fax)

E-mail: shellycsss@digital-link.net

Shelly A. Stroble, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to people who are blind or visually impaired; prevention of blindness services including vision screenings, public education and low-cost eye-wear; and workshop employment for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Northumberland County.

Geographic area served: Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually disabled and financially eligible.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$171531.

Clients served annually: 650.

Staff: 5. Part-time life skills workers. Also uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers public education programs for schools, businesses, and civic groups and Sensitivity to Blindness training.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations, adjustment to blindness services, referral to community services. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling or social services.

Employment: Operates sheltered workshops. Refers for other employment-oriented services. Sells manufactured products (hand-woven rugs, placemats, and brooms) on site. Offers chair caning.

Health/Medical: Provides adult vision screening services. Refers for other health services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other agencies as necessary. Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies for rehabilitation services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision services.

Preschool: Offers preschool vision screenings.

Chester County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

71 South First Street

Coatesville, PA 19320

Tel: (610) 384-2767

(610) 384-8005 (Fax)

Anita Cavuto, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Chester County.

Eligibility requirements: Blindness or visual impairment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Staff: 5 full-time. Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Employment: Offers employment for people who are handicapped.

Health/Medical: Provides diagnosis and evaluation of eye health, treatment of eye conditions, follow-up evaluation of eye treatment or prescription.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, typing, home management in client's home and referral to other agencies.

Edith R. Rudolphy Residence for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Residential facility

3827 Powelton Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19145
Tel: (215) 382-6233
(215) 382-6687 (Fax)

Shirley Bootman, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, United Way.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Housing Services, Recreation Services to older persons.

Housing Services: Offers housing for elderly blind adults.

Recreation: Offers bingo, arts and crafts, trips to Atlantic City.

Fayette County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

48 Bierer Lane
Uniontown, PA 15401
Tel: (724) 437-2791
(724) 439-3085 (Fax)
E-mail: eyes@lcsys.net

Nancy C. Shockey, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, and visually impaired persons.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Fayette County.

Geographic area served: Fayette County.

Eligibility requirements: Resident of Fayette County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Staff: 4 full-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Quarterly newsletters.

Additional information: Branch of Pennsylvania Association for the Blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Provides follow-up evaluation of eye treatment or prescription. Refers for other health services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals for rehabilitation, recreation, and employment services.

Offers eye safety devices and appliance demonstrations for clients and public.

Preschool: Offers preschool visual screenings and follow-up.

Greater Wilkes-Barre Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

57 North Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
Tel: (570) 823-1161
(570) 823-4841 (Fax)

www.wilkesbarreblind.com

E-mail: info@wilkesbarreblind.com

Ronald V. Petrilla, Executive Director,
ron@wilkesbarreblind.com

Colleen Gawlas, Prevention of Blindness Consultant

Thomas Walsh, Rehabilitation Teacher

Jennifer Throop, Director of Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help individuals with visual disability to live as independently as possible and to prevent unnecessary blindness.

Established: 1918.

County/District where located: Luzerne County.

Geographic area served: Serves Luzerne & Wyoming Counties.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: 5 professional, 4 service workers.

Fee structure: Eyeglasses/low vision devices provided at cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Local interest items, brochures, instruction manuals.

Community Outreach Programs: Does public service announcements, conducts screenings, and participates in health fairs.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers support group, consultation and referral.

Employment: Offers support services.

Health/Medical: Offers vision and glaucoma screening, remedial eye care. Provides eyeglasses and eye examinations for needy.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides and supplies low vision devices. Provides low vision evaluation for seniors.

Preschool: Offers vision screenings and educational programs.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training.

Reading Services: Newspapers read on regular FM stations two hours daily.

Recreation: Offers social and recreational activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in communication skills, support services for independent living, informational and socialization counseling, home visitation.

Hazelton Blind Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

145 West Broad Street

Hazleton, PA 18201

Tel: (570) 455-0421

(570) 455-0485 (Fax)

E-mail: hazeltonblind@epix.net

Lori Lesante, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to blind and visually impaired persons of Lower Luzerne County and provide prevention of blindness services to the community.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Luzerne County.

Geographic area served: Northern Carbon, Southern Luzerne, Schuylkill Counties.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 2 full-time, 2 part-time.

Fee structure: Appliances, devices provided at cost. Eyeglasses provided at low cost.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells magnifiers and optical devices. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers elementary school education program for blindness and eye safety. Offers free public education programs, free preschool vision screening.

Employment: Provides referrals to other agencies.

Information and Referral: Provides public education programs and referral to community resources.

Low Vision: Provides devices, appliances at cost, and eyeglasses at low cost.

Preschool: Offers vision screening program.

Recreation: Bus trips, parties.

Rehabilitation: Offers life skills classes.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: East Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Maryland.

Indiana County Blind Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

31 South Tenth Street

Indiana, PA 15701

Tel: (724) 465-5549 (Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.)

(724) 465-7683 (Fax)

E-mail: indcobblind@ptd.net

Marianne McGee, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide programs and services which will enhance the development and emphasize the capabilities of visually limited individuals and groups. **Established:** 1952.

County/District where located: Indiana County.

Geographic area served: Indiana County.

Eligibility requirements: Medically diagnosed visual disability constituting a handicap to social and economic self-sufficiency, or a progressive condition expected to result in such a handicap.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility, sighted guide. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: Uses 30-35 additional volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Screens persons in factories and senior citizen center participants.

Counseling: Offers psychosocial evaluation and individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling and referral to community services. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Provides sheltered workshops and follow-up services. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other employment-oriented services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals.
Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.
Parent Assistance: Provides information and advocacy to parents of blind children.
Preschool: Conducts vision screenings upon request.
Recreation: Provides limited activities.
Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in personal management, use of video magnifier, orientation and mobility in client's home and community. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other rehabilitation services.

Juniata Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Rehabilitation agency

658 Valley Street
 Lewistown, PA 17044
 Tel: (877) 741-7411
 (717) 242-1444 (Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.)
 (717) 242-1445 (Fax)
 Willa Adams, Executive Director, willa@acsworld.net
 Thiry Olbrich, Social Services Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the lives of persons in Mifflin, Juniata, and Huntingdon Counties with visual impairment or other disabilities through employment, and to educate the public about vision loss.
Established: 1945.
County/District where located: Mifflin County.
Geographic area served: Mifflin, Juniata, and Huntingdon Counties.
Eligibility requirements: Parts of the program have both visual and financial requirements.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.
Staff: 2 full-time, 2 part-time in social services department.
Fee structure: Minimal fee for eyeglasses; all other services free.
Additional information: Local representative of Pennsylvania Association for the Blind but primarily self-supporting (sheltered workshop).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Transportation Services to older persons.
Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (large print).
Types of content: Newsletters, medical information, requested items of interest.
Community Outreach Programs: Offers Vision Safety Awareness programs to elementary schools.

Counseling: Offers counseling, information and referral services, individual life skills instruction. Offers family peer counseling.
Health/Medical: Provides eye evaluation authorizations to local doctors, purchase of frames or lenses for qualified applicants.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.
Preschool: Offers vision screenings.
Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills, use of adaptive aids (low level), and socialization skills.
Support Groups: Offers support groups.
Transportation: Offers transportation and escort services for medical appointments, shopping, banking, and other activities for seniors.

Keystone Blind Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

1230 Stambaugh Avenue
 Sharon, PA 16146
 Tel: (724) 347-5501
 (724) 347-2204 (Fax)
 www.keystoneblind.org
 E-mail: kba@infonline.net
 Jonathan Fister, President/CEO
 Kathleen Buskirk, Rehabilitation Specialist
 Luanne Cade, Orientation and Mobility Specialist
 Marie Ditz, Vending Manager
 Mike Nicol, Information Systems Manager / Assistive Technology
 Ann Peterson, Director, Human Services
 Kathie Preece, O&M Specialist/Children's Program Coordinator
 Shirley Shanes, Prevention of Blindness Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To maintain and improve the quality of life for persons who are blind or visually impaired. Also seeks to prevent blindness and to provide employment opportunities and advocacy for persons who are disabled.
Established: 1947.
County/District where located: Mercer County.
Geographic area served: Northwest Pennsylvania/Northeast Ohio.
Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired, disabled.
Ages served: 0 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.
Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.
Budget: \$6,000,000.
Clients served annually: 600+.
Staff: 30 full-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: VISTA (newsletter). Wise Guys Eye Guide (online prevention of blindness and eye health program designed for children) (www.keystoneblind.org/wiseweb.htm).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides low vision, orientation and mobility, and assistive technology assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Business/Personal Services: Offers chore services.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers social evaluations and individual-family-group counseling.

Employment: Offers employment for disabled persons, employment referrals, follow-up.

Housing Services: Provides information about housing including form filling and moving.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other agencies.

Low Vision: Provides and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Reading Services: Herald, Times.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living and personal and home management skills, nutrition, and in the use of adaptive devices and appliances.

FIELD OFFICES

Meadville: 312 Chestnut Street, Room 103, Meadville, PA 16335, kba@info.net, Raedine Bridge, Rehabilitation Teacher

Kutztown University: Department of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Beekey 104

Kutztown, PA 19530

Tel: (610) 683-4651

(610) 683-1516 (Fax)

www.kutztown.edu/acad/coe/spced/spec.htm

David B. Ross, Professor, dross@kutztown.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Berks County.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Offers undergraduate program for teachers of visually impaired students.

Lackawanna County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

228 Adams Avenue

Scranton, PA 18503

Tel: (866) 662-5300

(570) 342-7613

(570) 348-1813 (Fax)

Alfred B. Davis, Executive Director,

abdavis111@yahoo.com

Paul Trama, Station Manager, (570) 348-1812

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, and visually impaired persons.

Established: 1912.

County/District where located: Lackawanna County.

Geographic area served: Lackawanna, Pike, and Wayne Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: Uses volunteers.

Publications: Monthly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Supplies prevention information via speakers' bureau. Offers Prevention of Blindness program, eye safety program, preschool vision screening, glaucoma screening clinics. Refers for other health services.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, individual counseling, referral to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Refers for employment-oriented services.

Information and Referral: Supplies prevention information via speakers' bureau, films, radio, and television.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Offers preschool vision screening.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, hobby groups, aerobics, bowling. Refers for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and home management skills. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

Lawrence County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

319 North Jefferson Street
New Castle, PA 16101
Tel: (724) 652-4571
(724) 652-3506 (Fax)
E-mail: lawcopab@aol.com
Larry R. Nord, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for individuals with blindness in Lawrence County.

County/District where located: Lawrence County.

Geographic area served: Lawrence County.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides orientation and mobility training, daily living skills, communication skills.

Lehigh Valley Braille Guild

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

614 North 13th Street
Allentown, PA 18102
Tel: (610) 433-6018
(610) 433-4856 (Fax)
Joanne Jaindl, Chairperson

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Lehigh County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Textbooks, recreational, vocational, religious.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

4724 Baum Boulevard
Leonard C. Staisey Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-1389
Tel: (800) 242-0586 (In Pennsylvania only.)
(412) 687-2440

(412) 687-2442 (Fax)
www.carnegielibrary.org/lbph
E-mail: lbph@carnegielibrary.org
Kathleen Kappel, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be a force for education, information, recreation, and inspiration in the communities it serves and to provide equitable access to a wide range of resources to support formal and informal lifelong learning.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Adams, Centre, Clinton, Franklin, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Tioga, Warren and all other counties in western Pennsylvania. Braille readers receive service from Philadelphia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Automatic doors. No steps at entrance.

Publications: Three Rivers News, On The Shelf, Three Rivers News Jr.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers programs and materials to describe library services.

Information and Referral: Provides information on disabilities and related agencies.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes, and described videos for people who are blind, visually impaired, or physically handicapped.

Recreation: Provides recreational reading materials.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Free Library of Philadelphia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ National Library Service library

919 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Tel: (800) 222-1754 (Toll-free in Pennsylvania)
(215) 683-3213
(215) 683-3211 (Fax)
www.library.phila.gov/lbh/lbh.htm
E-mail: flpblind@library.phila.gov
Vickie L. Collins, Director, collinsv@library.phila.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library service to the blind, visually impaired and physically handicapped.

County/District where located: Philadelphia County.

Geographic area served: Bradford, Cumberland, Lycoming, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Sullivan, York, and all other counties in eastern Pennsylvania as well as all braille readers in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Delaware.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Many volunteers and transitional workers engaged through partnerships.

Publications: 919 News (newsletter quarterly).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Public service announcements, special public notices, manuals and directories.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Montgomery County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

212 North Main Street
North Wales, PA 19454-3117

Tel: (215) 661-9800

(215) 661-9888 (Fax)

www.mcab.org

E-mail: mcab@mcab.org

Douglas A. Yingling, Executive Director,
dyingling@mcab.org

Jim Hunt, Program Director, jhunt@mcab.org

Sharon Zislis, Director of Development,
development@mcab.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the quality of life and independence of people coping with blindness or vision impairment through rehabilitation, education, support and advocacy.

Established: 1945.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Montgomery County and surrounding region.

Eligibility requirements: Mainly Montgomery County residents, also some regional programs. Blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$717,000.

Clients served annually: 1500.

Staff: 17. 8 full-time, 9 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Most programs free of charge. Minimal fees requested for computer training and therapy specializing in vision loss.

Publications: Newsletter, List of Services brochure, Guiding Techniques brochure, Eye on Success newsletter for donors.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Recreation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers programs about blindness to schools, scouts, retirement centers, nursing facilities, community group homes, and others.

Computer Training: Offers classroom and one on one instruction. Includes Computer Club for children and students to improve skills with access technology. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides comprehensive social services and individualized support for people losing vision.

Employment: Prepares people with vision loss from the Greater Delaware Valley for competitive employment. Offers job readiness conferences, job search and placement assistance.

Information and Referral: Provides information on blindness and visual impairment, referral to community resources.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training by a full time specialist on staff. Also provides sun lens evaluations, environmental assessments.

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance with IEP as requested and holds periodic support meetings for parents.

Recreation: Offers recreation/socialization activities for adults throughout the year and a special children's summer day camp.

Rehabilitation: Provides mobility instruction and in-home training in daily living skills.

Support Groups: Facilitates several support groups, including sight loss and diabetic meetings.

Transportation: Provides transportation for medical appointments, and in support of those attending selected agency programs.

Moore Eye Foundation: Low Vision Rehabilitation Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Healthplex Pavilion II
Suite 125
100 West Sproul Road
Springfield, PA 19064
Tel: (610) 690-4900
(610) 690-4910 (Fax)

Richard Brilliant, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality, comprehensive vision rehabilitation services in an interdisciplinary setting to all who need them regardless of ability to pay in order to help patients maximize their vision through provision of low vision devices and instructional techniques.

Established: 1994.

County/District where located: Delaware County.

Geographic area served: Greater Philadelphia.

Eligibility requirements: Visual problems that cannot be corrected by surgery, medication, or eyeglasses.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, braille signage.

Fee structure: Most major insurances accepted. Patient billed on a sliding scale for services and devices not covered by insurance.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides low vision evaluations.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers support group.

Low Vision: Provides low vision services and devices for the elderly.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Serves as internship site for optometry and vision rehabilitation students.

North Central Sight Services (NCSS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

901 Memorial Avenue
Williamsport, PA 17701
Tel: (800) 326-9370
(570) 323-9401
(570) 323-8194 (Fax)
www.ncsight.org
E-mail: ncsc@ncsight.org

Robert B. Garrett, President and CEO,
bobg@ncsight.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation services and employment opportunities to people who are blind and to prevent blindness in children and adults.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Lycoming County.

Geographic area served: Lycoming, Clinton, Sullivan, Centre, Bradford, Tioga, Potter and Susquehanna Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired persons who have a visual acuity of 20/70 with best correction.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 300.

Staff: 17 full-time, 1 part-time, uses volunteers.

Publications: Newsletter (bimonthly) as well as numerous brochures on our services and eye conditions.

Additional information: NCSS is a nonprofit social service agency whose services include support services, life skills services and transportation services. On the Prevention side, NCSS offers children and adult screenings for eye problems and referral and followup as well as public education on good eye health and safety.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides preschool vision screenings and adult vision screening, prevention of blindness services (including intraocular pressure screenings and public education).

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Community Outreach Programs: Provides public education materials and public service announcements.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers individual and group counseling.

Employment: Offers facility-based employment.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to state blindness and local agencies.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in social work, in-service training programs for volunteers and other agencies.

Recreation: Offers field trips and social activities for clients.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home management, communications, personal management skills. Offers rehabilitation services for seniors who are blind.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Bellefonte: 142 West Bishop Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823, ncsc@ncsight.org

Northland Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

300 Cumberland Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Tel: (888) 292-2798

(412) 366-8100

www.einetwork.net/ein/northland/

E-mail: northland@einetwork.net

Sandra Collins, Director, collins3@einetwork.net

Pat McCarthy, Director, Volunteer Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Allegheny County.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, some braille signage.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Maintains large talking book collection, and provides large-print materials, optical devices, computer work station accessible to visually impaired persons for viewing and catalogue, and other library services for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Overbrook School for the Blind (OSB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

■ Information/referral center

■ School for the blind

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151-2597

Tel: (215) 877-0313 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(215) 877-0313 (TDD/TTY)

(215) 877-2709 (Fax)

www.obs.org

Bernadette M. Kappen, Director, Bmk@obs.org

Dennis Brookshire, Publications Coordinator,
dennis@obs.org

Lawrence Campbell, International Program
Coordinator, larry@obs.org

Jennifer Criscuolo, Development Coordinator,
jcriscuolo@obs.org

Sandy Finkel, Coordinator of Outreach, sandy@obs.org

Cassandra Giardina, Early Intervention Coordinator,
cassandra@obs.org

Helene Marano, Coordinator, Secondary Program,
hmarano@obs.org

Barbara Maurer, Technology Specialist

JoAnn McNamee, Coordinator, LIFE Elementary,
joann@obs.org

Patrick Mitchell, Coordinator, Work Experience
Programs, patrick@obs.org

Lauri Wilde, Coordinator, LIFE Secondary,
lauri@obs.org

Lynne Williams, Preschool Coordinator, lynne@obs.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop and deliver education that enhances the options available for persons with visual impairments and other challenges so that they have the greatest opportunity to experience active and fulfilling lives.

Established: 1832.

County/District where located: Philadelphia County.

Geographic area served: Mainly Pennsylvania but some New Jersey residents attend.

Eligibility requirements: Students ages 3 to 21 must be legally blind and referred by their school districts.

Children in the Early Intervention and Outreach Programs are legally blind but a child who is unable to be tested appropriately may also receive services.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM. In the home-based programs, the hours are flexible to meet the needs of the families.

Accessibility: Braille signage, entrance ramps, elevators, lifts, TTD/TTY.

Residential Facilities: Five-day-a-week program provided.

Fee structure: The State of Pennsylvania pays 60% of the cost and the local school district pays 40%. For students from out of state, the district pays the total cost of the tuition.

Publications: TOWERS Newsletter, Publications through TOWERS Press include Braille Literacy Curriculum and Technology for All: Assistive Technology in the Classroom.

Additional information: Transportation is provided by the local school districts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille literacy programs to students from preschool through 12th grade.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Educational materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides early intervention to students, age 3-5, in generic preschool programs. Offers tours, evaluations, and information to individuals who call for assistance.

Computer Training: All students are provided with access technology and assistive technology devices. Students are evaluated and specific learning goals selected for inclusion in their IEP. Overbrook has received several awards for the technology program. Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Early Intervention: Provides home-based services to children ages birth to three.

Education Services: Offers specialized programs for students with visual impairments, from preschool through 12th grade.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational work, on- and off-campus work experiences program, and assistance in transition to work.

Library: Maintains library with braille, large-print, talking books, and offers online services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent support groups.

Preschool: Offers preschool program for blind or visually impaired children ages 3-5.

Professional Training: Provides in-service training for teachers and teacher aides and staff members.

Recreation: Offers recreational activities including clubs, hiking, swimming, goal ball, wrestling.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in skills of daily living.

Penn Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation and Research

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Low vision center/clinic**

University of Pennsylvania Health System
 Ralston House, Room 141
 3615 Chestnut Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19104
 Tel: (215) 662-2600
 (215) 662-3600 (Fax)
www.penneye.com/html/penn_low_vision_center.html
 E-mail: lovision@mail.med.upenn.edu

Janet D. Steinberg, Director, Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center, (215) 662-0133 (Fax)
 Dawn Ciccarone, M.S., OTR/L, Occupational Therapist
 Mary Eisenberg, COA, Low Vision Ophthalmic Assistant
 Anne Marie Otto, Office Manager
 Ranjoo Prasad, O.D., Optometrist, Low Vision Rehabilitation
 Jeffrey Wick, M.D., Ophthalmologist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1874.
County/District where located: Philadelphia County.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.
Ages served: 0 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.
Additional information: The Penn Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation and Research is affiliated with the Ralston Center for Geriatric Medicine.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.
Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.
Counseling: Offers social services, psychiatry. Social worker available.
Health/Medical: Offers optometric, ophthalmological, and genetics consultations.
Information and Referral: Provides consultation and referrals for geriatric medicine, geriatric psychiatry, and social services.
Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.
Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.
Rehabilitation: Provides training in orientation and mobility and offers occupational therapy.

Pennsylvania Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

777 East Park Drive
 Harrisburg, PA 17111
 Tel: (888) 633-5784
 (717) 558-7750
 (717) 558-7841 (Fax)
www.paeyemds.org/
 E-mail: pao@pamedsoc.org
 Tracy Sarris, Executive Director, tsarris@pamedsoc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1943.
County/District where located: Dauphin.
Geographic area served: Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

90 East Shady Lane
 Enola, PA 17025-2342
 Tel: (717) 234-3261
 (717) 234-4733 (Fax)

www.pabblind.org

E-mail: info@pabblind.org

Neal Carrigan, CEO/President,

neal.carrigan@pabblind.org

Nicole Blackman, Coordinator of Specialized Services

Albert Clark, Vice President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent unnecessary blindness and to promote the physical, social, and economic self-sufficiency of the Commonwealth's blind and visually impaired population.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts vision screening on location at schools, community. Has eye health and safety programs. Deploys field staff, as needed, to reach into rural counties of low population density.

Counseling: Provides counseling to help adjust to loss of sight.

Employment: Provides employment, training, education and social/supportive services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Provides educational and recreational programs to discourage isolation and promote healthy community interaction.

Rehabilitation: Provides home services and individualized instruction to area residents and training in daily living, home and health management, and communication skills. Provides variety of services to seniors with severe visual impairment.

Transportation: Provides escorted transportation to medical facilities, banks, grocery stores and social agencies.

Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Postsecondary institution

Department of Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment
Elkins Park Campus

8360 Old York Road

Elkins Park, PA 19027-1598

Tel: (215) 780-1360

(215) 780-1357 (Fax)

www.pco.edu

E-mail: TFitzpatrick@pco.edu

Maureen Duffy, Program Director, Rehabilitation
Teaching, Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment

Department, Graduate Studies Department, (215)
780-1362, mduffy@pco.edu

Laura Edwards, Program Coordinator, Low Vision
Rehabilitation, Graduate Studies in Vision

Impairment Department, Graduate Studies

Department, (215) 780-1365, LEwards@pco.edu

Marcy Graboyes, Associate Professor, (215) 780-6067,
mgraboyes@pco.edu

Stephanie Heaton, Assistant Professor, Department of
Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment, Orientation
and Mobility Program, sheaton@pco.edu

Kathleen M. Huebner, Professor, Associate Dean,
Graduate Studies in Vision Impairments;

Co-Director, National Center for Leadership in Visual
Impairment(NCLVI), (215) 780-1361,

kathyh@pco.edu

Laurel E. Leigh, Co-Director Orientation and Mobility,
Assistant Professor, Graduate Studies in Vision

Impairment, (215) 780-1401, LLeigh@pco.edu

Fabiana Perla, Assistant Professor, Orientation &

Mobility Program, Graduate Studies in Vision

Impairment, (215) 780-1367, FPerla@pco.edu

Almeda Ruger, Instructor, (215) 276-6069,

aruger@pco.edu

Eileen Schannel-Klitsch, Associate Professor,
eklitsch@pco.edu

Audrey J. Smith, Executive Director IVI—Graduate
Studies in Vision Impairments and The Feinbloom

Low Vision Rehabilitation Center and /Orientation

and Mobility Co-Director, (215) 780-1368,

Nancy@pco.edu

Diane P. Wormsley, Program Director, Professional
Preparation Program for Teachers of Children with

Visual and Multiple Disabilities, and Co-Director,

National Center for Leadership in Vision

Impairment, Graduate Studies Department, (215)

780-1366, dwormsley@pco.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Undergraduate degree
required for Master's degree and certificate programs.
Applicants for National Center for Leadership in Visual
Impairment must first be accepted into doctoral
programs at NCLVI Cooperating Universities.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Fee structure: Students: Tuition, Student
Scholarships/ Awards; Tuition and Stipend for Doctoral
Study at National Center for Leadership in Visual
Impairment Universities. Low Vision Patients:
Third-party payment, medical insurance and self-pay
fees.

Additional information: The objective of the PCO-IVI
Department of Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment
is to graduate highly qualified professionals to work
with individuals of all ages who are blind or visually
impaired through its education, rehabilitation teaching,

orientation & mobility and low vision graduate programs. It fosters in students attributes of intellectual curiosity, integrity, and professionalism. The college is committed to excellence in the pursuit of all its endeavors and to providing an environment which encourages learning and professional development through an open exchange of ideas. Programs are offered on campus, at various satellite sites throughout the county, and through on-line course work.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Personnel Preparation, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Performs assessments through the Community Rehabilitation Service Program. Performs comprehensive assessments of students and adults as requested by other organizations and agencies. Also directs Philadelphia Prevention of Blindness Program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consults in the areas of education, rehabilitation, orientation and mobility, and low vision rehabilitation. Services provided through Community Rehabilitation Service Program.

Counseling: Social service staff available to assist clients and their families.

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Assesses students through Community Rehabilitation Service Program.

Personnel Preparation: Master's and certificate programs in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, low vision rehabilitation, and education of the visually impaired.

Professional Training: Continuing education provided on a contracted basis with hours applicable for professional development.

Rehabilitation: Provided through Community Rehabilitation Service Program.

Support Groups: Older Adult Support Group meets monthly.

Pennsylvania Department of Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

555 Walnut Street
Fifth Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17101-1919

Tel: (717) 783-1550

(717) 783-6842 (Fax)

www.aging.state.pa.us/

E-mail: aging@state.pa.us

Nora Dowd Eisenhower, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Pennsylvania.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

1521 North Sixth Street

Harrisburg, PA 17102

Tel: (800) 622-2842 (Toll free in Pennsylvania)

(717) 787-6176

(800) 622-2842 (TDD/TTY)

(717) 787-3210 (Fax)

[www.dli.state.pa.us/landi/cwp/](http://www.dli.state.pa.us/landi/cwp/view.asp?a=128&Q=190368)

[view.asp?a=128&Q=190368](http://www.dli.state.pa.us/landi/cwp/view.asp?a=128&Q=190368)

Pamela Shaw, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist Pennsylvanians with disabilities to secure and maintain employment and independence.

County/District where located: Dauphin.

Geographic area served: Pennsylvania.

Eligibility requirements: All Pennsylvania residents who are blind or visually impaired.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Fee structure: Some of the services provided, such as vocational training, might involve financial participation on the part of the customer.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling to older persons.

Counseling: Offers counseling to address the challenges experienced by persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Employment: Runs the Business Enterprise Program, a specific training and employment option, among many, for customers of the agency's Vocational Rehabilitation program. Candidates for the program must have a visual acuity of no greater than legal blindness and successfully complete an evaluation and training program.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Assists families in arranging for specialized educational programming for their children.

Rehabilitation: Offers a wide range of services including home instruction, family counseling, referral to services required, training, vocational counseling and job placement. Provides training in the effective use of remaining vision and instruction in the use of electronic travel aids and low vision devices.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Altoona: Altoona BBVS District Office, 1101 Green Avenue, Room 139, Altoona, PA 16601

Erie: Erie BBVS District Office, 3100 Lovell Place, Erie, PA 16503

Harrisburg: Harrisburg BBVS District Office, 2971-B N. Seventh Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Philadelphia: Philadelphia BBVS District Office, 444 North Third Street, 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh BBVS District Office, 1075 Kossman Building, 400 Stanwix Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Wilkes-Barre: Wilkes-Barre BBVS District Office, 300 G Laird Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare: Office of Mental Retardation, Division of Early Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

P.O. Box 2675

Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675

Tel: (717) 783-7213

(717) 772-0012 (Fax)

www.dpw.state.pa.us/child/earlyintervention/

Maureen Cronin, Part C Coordinator,
mcronin@state.pa.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: Infants, toddlers and preschool children who have special needs due to developmental delays or disabilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Pennsylvania's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Pennsylvania Lions Beacon Lodge Camp

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

114 SR 103 South

Mt. Union, PA 17066-9601

Tel: (814) 542-2511

(814) 542-7437 (Fax)

www.beaconlodge.com

E-mail: info@beacon1@hcworkshop.com

Ellen Miller, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Mifflin County.

Geographic area served: Pennsylvania and surrounding states.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, mentally challenged, physically handicapped. Also deaf/hearing impaired children.

Hours of operation: 11-day sessions at residential camp, 6-day special-needs sessions.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for adults, cabins for children.

Funded by: Lions Clubs, state funds.

Staff: 5 full-time, 60 summer paid staff.

Fee structure: \$25 registration fee, camp fee depends on session.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers self-help direction.

Recreation: Offers residential summer camp activities, including arts and crafts, bowling, swimming, wrestling, hiking, basketball, shuffleboard, bus trips, archery, canoeing, kayaking.

Pennsylvania Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

218 North Street

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Tel: (717) 233-6455

www.poaeyes.org

E-mail: mail@poaeyes.org

Charles Stuckey, Executive Director,
charlie@poaeyes.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Institute on Disabilities

1301 Cecil B. Moore Avenue

Ritter Annex 423

Temple University

Philadelphia, PA 19122

Tel: (800) 750-7428 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(215) 204-1356 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(215) 204-9371 (Fax)

www.disabilities.temple.edu

E-mail: piat@astro.temple.edu

Amy Goldman, Project Director

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates for changes in laws, policies, and practices to improve access to assistive technology for all Pennsylvanians.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers leadership training programs; funding training via audioteleconference; presentations at statewide conferences; and activities to increase the inclusion of assistive technology in the preservice curriculum of relevant disciplines.

Information and Referral: Provides information, technical assistance, and training on access to electronic and information technology for people with disabilities. Responds to requests regarding consumer choices in the selection of assistive technology, specific devices and where to obtain them, and information about assistive technology service providers.

Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network—Harrisburg Office

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- State educational services

6340 Flank Drive
Suite 600
Harrisburg, PA 17112-2793
Tel: (800) 360-7282 (Pennsylvania only.)
(717) 541-4960
(717) 541-4968 (Fax)
www.pattan.k12.pa.us/
Fran Warkowski, Director,
fwarkowski@pattan.k12.pa.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support the efforts of the Bureau of Special Education and its initiatives and to build the capacity of local educational agencies to provide appropriate services to students who receive special education services.

County/District where located: Dauphin County.

Geographic area served: Central Pennsylvania.

Eligibility requirements: Pennsylvania resident, student through grade 12.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Collaborates with intermediate units, school districts, agencies and parents of eligible children and provides technical assistance through consultations with program supervisors regarding program planning and staff development, on-site consultation with individuals

and/or school-based teams, consultation and training in the area of assistive technology for students with visual impairment.

Education Services: Coordinates the provision of all text materials needed in Pennsylvania by searching for availability through the American Printing House for the Blind, and arranging for purchase, and/or exchange of needed materials from programs in other states.

Library: Manages an extensive circulation library of braille textbooks which have been produced, copied, purchased, and donated, making them available to Pennsylvania students and programs in other states.

Professional Training: Offers workshops related to assessment or specialized curriculum.

Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network—King of Prussia Office

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- State educational services

200 Anderson Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406
Tel: (800) 441-3215 (Pennsylvania only.)
(610) 265-7321
www.pattan.k12.pa.us/
James Duffey, Director, jduffey@eisc-prise.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support the efforts of the Bureau of Special Education and its initiatives and to build the capacity of local educational agencies to provide appropriate services to students who receive special education services.

Geographic area served: Eastern Pennsylvania.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Collaborates with intermediate units, school districts, agencies and parents of eligible children, and provides technical assistance through consultations with program supervisors regarding program planning and staff development, on-site consultation with individuals and/or school-based teams, consultation and training in the area of assistive technology for students with visual impairments.

Education Services: Coordinates the provision of all text materials needed in Pennsylvania by searching for availability through the American Printing House for the Blind, and by arranging for purchase and/or exchange of needed materials from programs in other states.

Library: Manages an extensive circulation library of braille textbooks which have been produced, copied, purchased, and donated, making them available to Pennsylvania students and programs in other states.

Professional Training: Offers workshops related to assessment or specialized curriculum.

Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network—Pittsburgh Office

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- State educational services

3190 William Pitt Way

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Tel: (800) 441-3215 (Pennsylvania only.)

(412) 826-2336

www.pattan.k12.pa.us/

Ellen Romett, Director, eromett@pattan.k12.pa.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support the efforts of the Bureau of Special Education and its initiatives and to build the capacity of local educational agencies to provide appropriate services to students who receive special education services.

Geographic area served: Western Pennsylvania.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Collaborates with intermediate units, school districts, agencies and parents of eligible children, and provides technical assistance through consultations with program supervisors regarding program planning and staff development, on-site consultation with individuals and/or school-based teams, consultation and training in the area of assistive technology for students with visual impairments.

Education Services: Coordinates the provision of all text materials needed in Pennsylvania by searching for availability through the American Printing House for the Blind, and arranging for purchase, and/or exchange of needed materials from programs in other states.

Library: Manages an extensive circulation library of braille textbooks which have been produced, copied, purchased, and donated, making them available to Pennsylvania students and programs in other states.

Professional Training: Offers workshops related to assessment or specialized education.

Pittsburgh Vision Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Rehabilitation agency

Oakland Facility

300 South Craig Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Tel: (800) 706-5050

(412) 682-5600

(412) 682-6640 (TDD/TTY)

(412) 682-8104 (Fax)

www.pghvis.org

Stephen Barrett, President/CEO, sbarrett@pghvis.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To reduce limitations that may result from loss of vision.

Established: 1997.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Allegheny County.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired with acuity of 20/70 or less, ophthalmological or optometric report.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully equipped based on ADA requirements.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory facilities available for Personal Adjustment to Blindness program.

Staff: 124 full-time, 40 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Fee-for-services where applicable. Financial aid available.

Publications: Newsletter (3 times per year), brochures, in-house newsletter (bimonthly).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers functional assessment services, psychological testing and evaluation to identify service needs of clients who are blind or visually impaired, preschool vision screening program for early detection of vision problems in day care centers and nursery school settings.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision and talking watches, clocks, liquid level indicators, kitchen aids, low vision and braille bingo cards, games and playing cards, big button telephones and remote controls, key identifiers, signature and writing guides, pill organizers, talking clinical thermometers. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Restaurant menus, concert programs, personnel manuals, other requests. Translation to alternate formats in other languages.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts preschool vision screening. Participates at fairs and expositions. Does outreach to senior centers to display agency materials and identify potential clients. Social workers available to conduct interviews in home environment.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output

systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, braille access systems.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance in many areas of visual impairment/rehabilitation.

Counseling: Provides social/psychosocial evaluation and individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling. Refers to community services. Refers for other counseling/social work services.

Early Intervention: Offers home-based and center-based preschool vision screening for early detection of eye problems.

Employment: Provides career and skill counseling, employment transition services, occupational skill development, job retention, business enterprise development, job retraining, sheltered workshops, vocational placement, work preparation training program, therapeutic activities center, supported work program, follow-up service. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Provides follow-up evaluation of eye treatment or prescription. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies. Offers audiological and low vision screening, psychiatric consultation, general medical screening, and health education.

Information and Referral: Refers to community resources.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in social work, orientation and mobility and rehabilitation counseling, regular in-service training programs, vocational rehabilitation, low vision, adaptive technology training.

Recreation: Offers skiing, hiking, birding, yoga, knitting, discussion groups, ceramics, community excursions, arts and crafts, hobby groups, special programs for the elderly, summer youth program, bowling. Refers for and provides consultation to other agencies.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, listening skills, typing, video magnifier, home management in client's home and community and training in the use of Optacon and Kurzweil equipment. Provides consultation to other agencies. Offers residential rehabilitation program, low vision services, access technology center, residential rehabilitation for adolescents with vision impairment (5-week summer program).

LOCAL OFFICES

Bridgeville: 311 Station Street, Bridgeville, PA 15017, mking@pghvis.org

Radio Home Visitor (RHV)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

123-D King's College
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0801
Tel: (570) 208-5811

Thomas Carten, Manager, tomcarten@hotmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide news and information for people who are blind, visually impaired, elderly or homebound on a year-round, daily basis.

Established: 1974.

County/District where located: Luzerne County.

Geographic area served: 25-mile radius from Wilkes-Barre.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Sun. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Accessibility: Totally accessible.

Funded by: Lions Clubs, private donations.

Staff: All volunteer.

Additional information: RHV is the oldest main-channel broadcast for the blind in the United States.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts material from newspapers (Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice, Dallas Post) through main-channel, regular FM radio daily.

Radio Information Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Radio reading station

2100 Wharton Street
Birmingham Towers, Suite 140
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
Tel: (412) 488-3944
(412) 488-3953 (Fax)

www.readingservice.org/

E-mail: info@readingservice.org

Laurie Anderson, Executive Director,
landerson@readingservice.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide independence through information.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Pittsburgh greater metropolitan area (12 counties of southwestern Pennsylvania).

Eligibility requirements: Print handicap.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Fee structure: Annual fee of \$20.

Publications: On Mic (program guide), Volunteer Voice (volunteer newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Customer's documents read to tape or translated to braille.

Reading Services: Broadcasts 24 hours on special FM frequency and on the Internet via www.readingservice.org. Newspapers read: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Pittsburgh Tribune Review.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Philadelphia Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

215 West Church Road
Suite 111

King of Prussia, PA 19406

Tel: (610) 265-8090

(610) 265-7929 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: philadelphia@rfbd.org

Jodi C. Button, Executive Director, jbutton@rfbd.org

Michelle S. Gollapalli, Director of Development,
mgollapalli@rfbd.org

Mary McDermott, Studio Director,
mmcdermott@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Montgomery County.

Geographic area served: Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-8:00 PM; Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Sat. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 8.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** School textbooks, K-College.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Royer-Greaves School for Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

118 South Valley Road

Paoli, PA 19301-1444

Tel: (610) 644-1810

(610) 644-8164 (Fax)

E-mail: rgschool@aol.com

Carol T. Dale, Executive Director

Vicky Mayer, Residential Director

Vincent McVeighh, Education Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a supportive home education and training environment for individuals who are visually impaired and profoundly developmentally disabled, so residents can learn to function to their full potential and enjoy an enhanced quality of life.

Established: 1921.

County/District where located: Chester County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral by parents, school district or services agency required. Multihandicapped visually impaired children and adults.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories.

Staff: Teachers duly certified for mental and/or physical handicap as well as vision impairment. 24-hour staffing.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Approved Private School for Special Education.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides individual assessment, psychological testing and evaluation, counseling, mobile therapy, person-centered planning, occupational therapy evaluation and consultation.

Education Services: Provides ungraded instruction of multiply disabled blind pupils, including orientation and mobility, occupational therapy, life skills, adaptive physical education, specialized academics, braille/pre-braille, pre-vocational skills, music therapy, community life.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation and training. Contracts with sheltered workshops. Operates adult training facility.

Health/Medical: Offers speech therapy, physical therapy, nursing services. Contracts and refers for other health services.

Library: Maintains library of braille and pre-braille, and large-print materials for school use only.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, swimming, scouting, music, horticulture, pet program, athletics, music, and community outings.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in daily living skills, personal management, braille, listening skills, orientation and mobility including pre-cane, remedial education, sensory training.

Saint Lucy Day School for Children with Visual Impairments

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Infant/preschool agency
- School for the blind

130 Hampden Road
Upper Darby, PA 19082

Tel: (610) 352-4550

(610) 352-4582 (Fax)

www.stlucydayschool.org

E-mail: APLucy01@nni.com

Sr. M. Margaret Fleming, IHM, Principal,
aplucy01@nni.com

Kathleen Cleaver, TVI, Early Intervention, Preschool
Sr. Elaine George, IHM, Materials Management
Sr. Katharine McCormack, IHM, Junior High Teacher
Diane Muller, TVI, Computer Teacher
Kay Solliday, TVI, Primary Unit
Kimberly Zondlo, TVI, Junior High

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1955.

County/District where located: Delaware County.

Geographic area served: Philadelphia, Delaware, Montgomery, and Chester Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visual acuity of 20/70 or less with best correction, 20 degrees field restriction, must be ambulatory and without mental handicaps.

Ages served: 0 to 15.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 30.

Staff: 8 full-time, 3 part-time. Uses volunteers for some braille transcription and library work, and as teachers' aides.

Fee structure: Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is the major source of funding for SLDS. Small tuition fee is charged with the opportunity for tuition assistance.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Saint Lucy Day School for Children with Visual Impairments is a Catholic school that provides spiritual and academic instruction, as well as training in all areas of the expanded core curriculum.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Provides training in the use of all forms of adaptive technology. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Early Intervention: Provides on-site or home visitation for children from birth to 3 years of age.

Education Services: Offers programs for preschool, kindergarten through eighth grade.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides family support group.

Preschool: Provides preschool services for children ages 2 1/2-5 years.

Recreation: Arts and crafts, summer day camps available.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living and communication skills and remedial education.

Support Groups: Has a support groups for families of blind or visually impaired students.

Somerset County Blind Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Rehabilitation agency

748 S. Center Avenue

Somerset, PA 15501

Tel: (814) 445-1310

(814) 444-1385 (Fax)

www.somersetblind.org

Robin Stemple, Executive Director,
rob@somersetblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for the blind and visually impaired of Somerset County and to prevent vision loss in the general population.

Established: 1997.

Geographic area served: Somerset County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, In-Home Services, Low Vision Services, Reading Services, Recreation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Provides preschool and adult vision screenings.

Employment: The Blind Center's Sheltered Employment Program currently employs 14 blind and visually impaired workers engaged in a variety of manufacturing operations, primarily assembly and packaging.

Health/Medical: Provides vision screening at local day cares and preschools and adult vision screenings at senior centers.

In-Home Services: Provides the necessary services which allow clients to remain in their own homes and function as independently as possible.

Low Vision: Provides low vision devices at no cost to clients. Also provides watches, signature guides, check-writing guides, 20/20 pens and other low vision aids to clients at no charge.

Reading Services: Offers a wide variety of valuable information to listeners 24 hours per day through the Central PA Radio Reader. In addition to news of national interest, the following publications are featured: Johnstown Tribune-Democrat, the Somerset Daily American and the Bedford Gazette. Volunteer readers emphasize the types of news found only in the pages of a local newspaper, such as the birth announcements, marriages, obituaries, school news, church news, etc.

Recreation: Organizes recreational activities for clients, typically at no cost, or at a minimal charge. Activities range from horseback riding and Christmas parties to professional theater productions and bowling.

Rehabilitation: Offers Life Skill classes help to meet the clients' need for socialization with other visually impaired individuals and also to allow the Blind Center to provide basic instruction effectively and efficiently.

Support Groups: Conducts a monthly support group meeting at the Blind Center to allow clients to express their feelings of frustration and isolation in an informal, non-threatening environment. These meetings also allow clients to share helpful tips, success stories, useful information sources, etc.

Transportation: Provides daily transportation to/from work.

South Central Blind Association**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ Rehabilitation agency**

242 East John Street

Bedford, PA 15522

Tel: (814) 623-8214

(814) 623-8214 (Fax)

www.pabind.org

E-mail: scba@pennswoods.net

Abby Dively, PAB Board Member

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to residents of Fulton or Bedford Counties who are visually impaired, legally blind, or physically handicapped.

County/District where located: Bedford County.

Geographic area served: Bedford and Fulton Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, legally blind, physically handicapped.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-12:00 PM, 1:00 PM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides vision screening for preschoolers, glaucoma screening for elderly.

Counseling: Offers support groups and counseling services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living and communications skills.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

Susquehanna Association for the Blind and Vision Impaired**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ Rehabilitation agency**

244 North Queen Street

Lancaster, PA 17603

Tel: (717) 291-5951

(717) 291-9183 (Fax)

E-mail: jsp@sabvi.com

Stephen Patterson, President/CEO, jsp@sabvi.com

Marsha J. Chalut, Director of Human Resource,
mchalut@sabvi.com

Dennis Steiner, Vice President/COO,
dsteiner@sabvi.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide social, vocational, rehabilitative, and educational services for people who are blind or visually impaired and to educate the community about blindness and its prevention.

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: Lancaster County.

Geographic area served: Lancaster and Lebanon Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired, unable to read newspaper print without correction, visual acuity of 20/70 or less, restricted fields.

Ages served: 1 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 23 full-time, 6 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Magnifier, Viewsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells low vision devices. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Runs Kidsight, Worksight.

Employment: Provides industrial employment and vocational training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to other services. Offers prevention of blindness program.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers support groups.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living and communication skills.

Support Groups: Has a support group for parents.

LOCAL OFFICES

Lebanon: 1126 Walnut Street, Lebanon, PA 17042

Temple University Hospital: Ophthalmology Department

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

3401 North Broad Street
6th Floor, Parkinson Pavilion
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Tel: (215) 707-4944
(215) 707-1684 (Fax)
www.health.temple.edu/tuh/index.html

Joseph J. Kubeacki, Professor and Chairman,
Department of Ophthalmology,
kubeacki@unix.temple.edu
Al Finestone, Institute on Aging,
afinestone@temple.edu
Colleen Poiesz, Office Coordinator, Pediatric
Ophthalmology

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be an outstanding clinical educational and academic department of ophthalmology, delivering ophthalmic services and training residents and medical students of Temple University.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: Philadelphia County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM-2:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Ophthalmology assistant, resident, technician, optician, psychologist, ophthalmologist, social worker.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Health/Medical: Provides total eye care for all ages.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Trains residents and students from Temple University.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Broomall: 2000 Marple Commons, Suite 102, Broomall, PA 19008

Tri-County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1800 North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17102-2200
Tel: (717) 238-2531
(717) 238-0710 (Fax)
www.tricountyblind.org
E-mail: info@tricountyblind.org.

Danette Blank, Executive Director,
dblank@tricountyblind.org
Nancy Altemose, Prevention of Blindness Director,
prevention@tricountyblind.org
Bonnie Frey, Social Services Director,
bfrey@tricountyblind.org
Joyce Marshall, Director, Manufacturing,
jmarshall@tricountyblind.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for people who are blind or visually impaired in the Tri-County region.

County/District where located: Dauphin County.

Geographic area served: Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: News & Views (bi-monthly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provides prevention of blindness services to the public. Presents eye safety programs to area schools, adult screening at health fairs, business and civic organizations. Has a department for the prevention of blindness and conducts vision screenings.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Provides counseling and support groups for families, people who are blind, life skills education, chore service, case management services.

Employment: Operates a sheltered workshop. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to special services.

Reading Services: Provides individuals who are print-impaired with news, information, broadcasts of special events through the Harrisburg Area Radio Reading Service. Publications include the Harrisburg Magazine, Reminisce, Patriot-News and other local papers.

Recreation: Assists in activities such as attending plays, exploring nature, playing cards, touring local attractions, art projects, dancing, learning local history.

Rehabilitation: Offers life skills, personal skills, home maintenance, nutrition and safety programs.

University of Pittsburgh: Department of Instruction and Learning

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Department of Instruction and Learning
5316 Wesley W. Posvar Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Tel: (412) 624-7247

(412) 648-7081 (Fax)

www.education.pitt.edu/visionstudies

E-mail: soeinfo@pitt.edu

George J. Zimmerman, Chairman, Department of Instruction and Learning;

Lynn A. Fox, Clinical Instructor, Department of Instruction and Learning, (412) 648-7308, alderson@pitt.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Graduate (master's, doctoral) programs to prepare teachers of visually impaired students, orientation and mobility specialists, and dually certified teachers of visually impaired students/orientation and mobility specialists. The teacher of the visually impaired certificate program is offered both on-line as well as on-campus. Doctoral preparation in special education with emphasis in blindness and visual impairment is also available. Students may pursue graduate study toward the completion of an Ed.D. or Ph.D.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

Venango County Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Library

P.O. Box 515

Seneca, PA 16346

Tel: (814) 676-1876

(814) 676-5814 (Fax)

E-mail: vcblind@csonline.net

Loretta A. Strawbridge, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, and visually impaired persons and to work for the prevention of blindness.

Established: 1927.

Geographic area served: Clarion, Forest, and Venango Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: No steps to enter. Braille signage, elevators.

Staff: 2 full-time, 2 part-time.

Publications: Organization pamphlet.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Business/Personal Services, Information and Referral, Support Groups to older persons.

Business/Personal Services: Offers chore services for the elderly.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers adult and preschool screenings in health fairs. Offers eye safety programs in all Venango County elementary schools.

Counseling: Provides consultation and referral services.

Health/Fitness: Offers yoga classes.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals for orientation and mobility training, counseling.

Library: As sub-lending agency for the Library of Congress, provides talking book record players and cassette players; talking book records and cassettes; braille books; large-print books and magazines.

Preschool: Offers vision screenings in daycare centers, nursery schools, and at kindergarten registration.

Reading Services: Oil City Derrick (local news recap, obits, weather, grocery buys).

Recreation: Offers adult continuing education, arts and crafts, summer camp, yoga, swimming, shopping trips and excursions.

Support Groups: Has a support groups for seniors.

Eligibility requirements: Any person with functional vision loss is eligible.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:15 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Budget: \$600,000.

Clients served annually: 800.

Staff: 14. 8 full-time, 6 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No fees, except for cost of low vision devices and Occupational Therapy Home services.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Community service agency.

Vision and Blindness Resources - Erie Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Rehabilitation agency
- Social service organization

2402 Cherry Street

Erie, PA 16502

Tel: (800) 881-9205 (For serviced counties only.)

(814) 455-0995

(814) 455-0997 (Fax)

E-mail: info@vbr-erie.com

Tyco V. Swick, CEO, tyco_swick@VBR-Erie.com

Roger M. Blair, Chief Technology Officer,
roger_blair@VBR-Erie.com

Joseph Burgert, Low Vision Specialist,
info@VBR-Erie.com

Heidi Tuszynski, Social Worker,
heidi_tuszynski@VBR-Erie.com

Dorothy Yucha-Seth, Rehabilitation Teacher,
dorothy_seth@VBR-Erie.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and to assist the visually impaired to overcome the handicaps imposed by various visual disabilities.

Established: 1938.

County/District where located: Erie County Pennsylvania.

Geographic area served: Erie County, Pennsylvania primarily. Smaller satellite services in Warren, McKean, Elk, Cameron and Potter Counties.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Business/ Personal Services, Counseling, Low Vision Services, Recreation Services, Support Groups, Transportation Services to older persons.

Business/Personal Services: Offers chore services for seniors.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides in-service training to staffs of organizations that have a significant visually impaired population.

Counseling: Provides casework and referral services. Offers training in blindness skills to supplement the education of mainstreamed children.

Health/Medical: Offers diagnostic and medical treatment, public education programs.

Information and Referral: Serves as the primary source of information and referrals regarding blindness and visual impairment in area.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides after-school and summer programs to assist parents of children with visual impairment.

Reading Services: Reading from the Erie Times News available by dialing (814) 459-2999.

Recreation: Offers social group for elderly blind persons.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and home management skills.

Support Groups: Has a support group for seniors.

Transportation: Provides transportation services for seniors.

Visual Impairment and Blindness Services of Northampton County, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

129 East Broad Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Tel: (610) 866-8049

(610) 866-8730 (Fax)

www.viablservices.org

E-mail: viabl@viablservices.org

Judith M. Pobuda, Executive Director,
judipobuda@viablservices.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1928.

County/District where located: Northampton County.

Geographic area served: Northampton County, Lehigh County residents with Bethlehem address. Monroe County (branch).

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 6 full-time, 6 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Publications: Bimonthly and quarterly newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Provides community awareness programs, videos available for loan, resource room for client and community use.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers adjustment to blindness counseling for individuals and their families; chore service in the home, housing assistance, life skills education (individual and group basis), transportation and escorts, personal advocacy. Assists clients to properly utilize public services and facilities, refers to community organizations for in-depth psychological counseling, rehabilitation service, drug/alcohol-related problems.

Employment: Provides referrals for in-depth vocational rehabilitation.

Health/Medical: Offers screenings and eye examinations.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers bowling, crafts, aerobics, lectures, concerts, community tours, weekly socialization programs designed to build appropriate communication skills, physical fitness, and adaptive abilities for crafts and homemaking.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in home and personal management, orientation and mobility, referral for in-depth vocational rehabilitation.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

E. Stroudsburg: 62 Analomink St., E. Stroudsburg, PA 18301, monroe@viablservices.org

Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- School for the blind

201 North Bellefield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-1499

Tel: (412) 621-0100

(412) 621-4067 (Fax)

www.wpsbc.org/

Janet Simon, Executive Director, jsimon@wpsbc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide superior opportunities for training and education to students who, in addition to vision impairment, are disabled by other severe conditions; to help all students gain as much independence as possible so that they can experience positively the companionship of family, friends and the community; and to offer assistance to families and serve as a resource to the community.

Established: 1887.

County/District where located: Allegheny County.

Geographic area served: Western Pennsylvania.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, resident of western Pennsylvania.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Residential, 5 days a week.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories.

Funded by: Private donations, public funds, state funds.

Budget: \$20,000,000.

Staff: 260 full-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: No fee for service. Funded by a combination of public and private revenue.

Publications: Insights (biannual).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Counseling: Offers individual counseling. Provides referrals to community agencies.

Early Intervention: Offers toddler program for children from birth to age 3 who are suspected of being blind.

Education Services: Offers preschool through 12th grade, functional, community-referenced curriculum for blind students with moderate to severe disabilities.

Employment: Provides career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, sheltered workshops, follow-up service.

Health/Medical: Maintains 24-hour health center staffed by licensed nurses.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers case management services to families.

Preschool: Offers five days per week educational programs for children ages 3 to 6.

Professional Training: Provides PA 48 training to professional staff.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, expressive arts, bowling, dance, radio, swimming. Offers extended school-year program.

Rehabilitation: Provides sensory training and training in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening, and typing skills and in the use of video magnifiers and electronic mobility aids.

Westmoreland County Blind Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

911 South Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601-4140

Tel: (724) 837-1250

(724) 837-3135 (Fax)

E-mail: lhelkowski@wcbainpa.org

Lawrence Helkowski, Executive Director,
lhelkowski@wcbainpa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the quality of life for individuals with blindness in Westmoreland County.

County/District where located: Westmoreland County.

Geographic area served: Westmoreland County.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides vocational training and guidance.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals for other services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in orientation and mobility and skills of daily living.

William Feinbloom Vision Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

Pennsylvania College of Optometry

The Eye Institute

1200 West Godfrey Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19141

Tel: (800) 433-3937

(215) 276-6060

(215) 276-6017 (Fax)

www.pco.edu/feinbloom/eye_conditions.htm

Sarah D. Appel, Chief of Low Vision Services,
sarah@pco.edu

Marcy Graboyes, Coordinator of Social Services,
mgrayboyes@pco.edu.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help visually impaired people of all ages make the best use of their sight.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Philadelphia County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Severe visual disability causing difficulty in daily functioning.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Staff: Optometric staff, social service staff, vision rehabilitation specialists, O&M specialists, technology specialists. Consultation with ophthalmologist available.

Fee structure: Fees vary according to the nature of the service performed and the devices prescribed. Operates on a fee-for-service basis and offers a sliding fee scale in cases of financial need. Many insurance plans are accepted.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Support Groups to older persons.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Social service staff assists clients and their families.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Family assistance provided by social service staff.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation teaching, orientation and mobility services.

Support Groups: Holds monthly older-adult support group meetings.

WRRS/RADPRIN of Lehigh Valley

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Radio reading station**

3835 Green Pond Road
 College Center 335
 Bethlehem, PA 18020
 Tel: (610) 861-5583
 (610) 861-4125 (Fax)
www.radprin.homestead.com/radprin.html
 Thomas Eberts, Studio Manager
 Jay Wetzel, President, Board of Directors

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide audio access to educational and daily community information for print handicapped individuals of all ages living in the greater Lehigh Valley.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Northampton County.

Geographic area served: Northampton, Lehigh, Berks, Bucks, Carbon, and Monroe Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Print handicapped.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts educational and daily community information for print-handicapped individuals.

York County Blind Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Rehabilitation agency**

1380 Spahn Avenue
 York, PA 17403
 Tel: (800) 255-6578
 (717) 848-1690
 (717) 845-3889 (Fax)
www.forsight.org
 E-mail: bill@ycbc.org
 William H. Rhinesmith, President, bill@ycbc.org
 Dennis Delp, Low Vision Specialist
 Pam Eberly, Outreach Worker
 Jim Fennen, Outreach Worker, (717) 369-2752
 Tony Heath, Sales Representative, Special Projects,
tony@ycbc.org
 Carl Hosier, Director, Industrial Operations, Sales and
 Marketing, carl@ycbc.org
 Hilda Jungclaus, Director of Business and Finance,
hilda@ycbc.org
 Rene Manzella, Vision Screener,
visionscreeners@ycbc.org
 Dave McMullen, Sales Manager, dave@ycbc.org
 Pat Mummert, Social Worker, pat@ycbc.org
 Kate Putt, Orientation and Mobility Instructor

Leora Wiest, Director, ForSight Vision Services,
leora@ycbc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality, specialized services and opportunities designed to prevent, prepare for and adjust to loss of vision.

Established: 1932.

County/District where located: York County.

Geographic area served: York County, Adams County and Franklin County.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Clients served annually: 250.

Staff: 13 full-time; 8 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: Fees for Low Vision Center only.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Support Groups to older persons.

Assistive Products: Operates the ForSight Vision Center retail store of low vision aids and appliances. Statewide distributor for the Enhanced Vision line of CCTVs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers educational and informative talks.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family/parent counseling; placement in rehabilitation training. Provides referrals to community services and other counseling/social work services.

Early Intervention: Provides training, education and support to infants born blind and their parents. Arranges for or provides both a clinical vision assessment and a functional vision assessment. Works with both the child and the parents to develop a plan that will provide the appropriate stimulation exercises to encourage functional development.

Employment: Provides training in occupational skills, sheltered workshops, vocational placement, and follow-up service. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Provides preschool vision screening, adult vision screening, low vision examination and low cost eyeglasses to income eligible.

Low Vision: Forsight Vision Center. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Operates a retail store featuring hundreds of low vision aids and appliances.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling and other assistance and support. Provides resource materials to parents to assist them in the developmental stages of their child.

Rehabilitation: Provides sensory training and instruction in personal management, handwriting, braille, typing, and home management skills in client's home and community. Refers for other rehabilitation services.

Support Groups: Offers support and activity groups for seniors.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Fort Loudon: Franklin County Association for the Blind, 5593 Forest Lane, Fort Loudon, PA 17224

Gettysburg: Adams County Association for the Blind, 18 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325, Ron Reuse

Hanover: Hanover Association for the Blind, One Center Square, Suite 15, Hanover, PA 17331

Puerto Rico

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Governor's Office for Elderly Affairs
(787) 721-5710

Puerto Rico Department of Labor: Vocational
Rehabilitation Administration
(787) 729-0160

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Puerto Rico Department of Health: Early
Intervention Program
(787) 274-5660

Educational Services

Puerto Rico Department of Education: Special
Education Program
(787) 759-2000

Rehabilitation Services

Puerto Rico Department of Labor: Vocational
Rehabilitation Administration
(787) 729-0160

School for the Blind

Instituto Loaiza Cordero para Niños Ciegos
(787) 722-2498

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Puerto Rico Regional Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Puerto Rico College of Optometrists

Rehabilitation Agencies

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Puerto Rico Blind
Rehabilitation Center

Schools for the Blind

Instituto Loaiza Cordero para Niños Ciegos

State Technology Programs

Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program

Governor's Office for Elderly Affairs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

P.O. Box Call Box 50063
Old San Juan Station, PR 00902
Tel: (787) 721-5710
(787) 721-6510 (Fax)
www.ogave.gobierno.pr

E-mail: gaponte@gobierno.pr

Rosanna Lopez, Executive Director,
rlopez@ogave.gobierno.pr

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Puerto Rico.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information
and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Instituto Loaiza Cordero para Niños Ciegos

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

Fernandez Juncos 1312
Santurce, PR 00910
Tel: (787) 722-2498
(787) 723-9610 (Fax)
Shirley Raffucci, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, mentally retarded, and multiply disabled persons.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (school and rehabilitation service), 24 hour residential service.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories; room and board.

Funded by: State funds.

Staff: 91 full time, uses volunteers. Includes ophthalmologist, optometrist, speech pathologist, occupational therapist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assessments administered by staff that includes occupational therapist, speech pathologist, ophthalmologist, and optometrist.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems.

Counseling: Offers individual, family/parent, couple counseling; social evaluations; placement in school; referral to community services. Contracts and refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers preschool through grade 9 program and programs for adult continuing education, general academic, vocational/skill development.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluations. Refers for other employment-oriented services.

Health/Medical: Provides treatment of eye conditions, follow-up evaluations of eye treatment or prescription, general medical services, physical therapy. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for health services.

Preschool: Provides health-related services and education for preschool-age children.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in special education, orientation and

mobility and regular in-service training programs, open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, swimming, track, basketball. Refers and provides consultation to other agencies for other recreational services.

Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

University of Puerto Rico
Assistive Technology Institute
Jardin Botanico Sur
1187 Calle Flamboyant
San Juan, PR 00926-1117
Tel: (888) 496-6035
(787) 764-6035
(787) 767-8642 (TDD/TTY)
(787) 754-8034 (Fax)
www.pratp.upr.edu
E-mail: pratp@pratp.upr.edu
Maria Miranda, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers assistance to individuals with impairments and the general public in the use of general and specialized equipment.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation on equipment and assistive technology products and services and alternatives of financing, among others.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral for assistive technology specialists.

Puerto Rico College of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 383551
San Juan, PR 00936-3551
Tel: (787) 767-2828
(787) 854-1551
(787) 883-1849
(787) 767-6882 (Fax)
E-mail: copr@coqui.net
Olimpia Vargas Arriaga, President

Puerto Rico Department of Education: Special Education Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

P.O. Box 190759

San Juan, PR 00919-0759

Tel: (787) 759-2000

(787) 753-0015 (Fax)

www.de.gobierno.pr/EDUPortal/default.htm

Cesar A. Rey Hernandez, Secretary of Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Puerto Rico.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers educational services for handicapped, visually impaired, legally blind, and multiply disabled public school students in Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico Department of Health: Early Intervention Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Call Box 70184

San Juan, PR 00936

Tel: (787) 274-5660

www.salud.gov.pr/divisiones/servicios%20habilitacion.htm

Naydamar Perez Otero, Coordinator, Part C Program,
Division of Rehabilitative Service,
nperez@salud.gov.pr

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Puerto Rico.

Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or conditions that could lead to delays.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Puerto Rico's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Puerto Rico Department of Labor: Vocational Rehabilitation Administration

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

P.O. Box 191118

San Juan, PR 00919-1118

Tel: (787) 729-0160

(787) 728-8070 (Fax)

María Rosa Iturregui, Administrator

Conchita Gonzales, Director, Division of Services to the Blind

Aida Luz Matos, Director, Office of Sensory Impairments

Erlyn Pagan, Director, Center for Training and Transition to Employment for the Blind

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote choices and empowerment for individuals with disabilities by providing rehabilitation services to assist them in achieving competitive employment or independent living.

Established: 1936.

Geographic area served: Islandwide.

Eligibility requirements: Vocational handicap.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Jaws (Screen Reader Software, Braille 'n Speak, Braille Lite, Zoom Text).

Counseling: Provides family counseling.

Employment: Offers evaluations, vocational training, job placements, vending facility program.

Health/Medical: Provides general health services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides comprehensive services. Provides independent living services for visually impaired individuals over age 55, including training for daily living skills and the use of adaptive aids.

LOCAL OFFICES

Hato Rey: P.O. Box 191118, Hato Rey, PR 00919-1118, (401) 941-6666

Santurce: Avenida Ponce de Leon, Condominio San Alberto 605, Santurce, PR 00908, (787) 724-2490

Santurce: San Rafael Street, Stop 20, Santurce, PR 00912, (415) 431-1481

Puerto Rico Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **National Library Service library**

520 Ponce de Leon Avenue

Suite 2

San Juan, PR 00901

Tel: (800) 981-8008

(787) 723-2519

(787) 721-8177 (Fax)

E-mail: bibciego@tld.net

Igri Enriquez, Librarian, ienrique@tld.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide talking and braille books and play-back machines to visually and physically impaired individuals in Puerto Rico.

Geographic area served: Puerto Rico.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Operates a 24-hour hot line.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces

materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:**

Provides braille services on request.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Puerto Rico Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Rehabilitation agency**

VA Medical Center

10 Casia Street

San Juan, PR 00921-3201

Tel: (787) 641-7582

(787) 641-4569 (Fax)

Maria D. Nevarez, Director,

maria.nevarez@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1986.

Geographic area served: Puerto Rico.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Assists individuals in making an emotional and behavioral adjustment to blindness through individual counseling sessions and group therapy meetings.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers a variety of skill courses designed to help blinded veterans achieve a realistic level of independence. These skill areas include orientation and mobility, communication skills, activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social/recreational activities.

Rhode Island

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs
(401) 462-4000

Rhode Island Department of Human Services:
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
(800) 752-8088

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Rhode Island Department of Health: Division
of Family Health
(800) 942-7434

Educational Services

Rhode Island Department of Education:
Vision Services Program
(401) 456-8072

Rehabilitation Services

Rhode Island Department of Human Services:
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
(800) 752-8088

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Information/Referral Centers

Saving Sight Rhode Island

Libraries

Talking Books Plus, Office of Library and Information
Services (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

IN-SIGHT

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Rhode Island Optometric Association
Rhode Island Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

Radio Reading Stations

IN-SIGHT

Rehabilitation Agencies

IN-SIGHT

Social Service Organizations

Saving Sight Rhode Island

State Technology Programs

Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: New England Region Office (HKNC)

See Massachusetts.

IN-SIGHT

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Radio reading station
- Rehabilitation agency

43 Jefferson Boulevard

Warwick, RI 02888

Tel: (401) 941-3322

(401) 941-3356 (Fax)

www.IN-SIGHT.org

E-mail: hqinsight@in-sight.necoxmail.com

Judith T. Smith, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive services to persons who are blind or severely visually impaired.

Established: 1923.

County/District where located: Kent.

Geographic area served: State of Rhode Island and parts of southeastern Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Ophthalmological/medical reports for vision rehabilitation services.

Ages served: 4 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Both facilities are totally accessible.

Clients served annually: +/- 6,000.

Staff: 50. Professional/support staff in all areas of vision rehabilitation, low vision, social services, and vocational evaluation, training and employment.

Fee structure: Sliding scale and third-party reimbursement for low vision. Most services are free.

Publications: Newsletter twice/year; various publications describing our services.

Additional information: IN-SIGHT is the only agency providing comprehensive vision rehabilitation services to the visually impaired population in Rhode Island.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers casework, individual, group and family counseling, peer support groups.

Employment: Operates industrial workshop and offers services such as chair reseating.

Health/Medical: Provides special training for persons with diabetes by registered nurse. Provides examinations and evaluations.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship and fieldwork placement in low vision, regular in-service training programs, seminars for professionals in all fields.

Reading Services: Operates IN-SIGHT Radio, a radio information service.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living, communication, and life skills. Offers diabetic rehabilitation program.

Support Groups: Offers peer support groups.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Rumford: IN-SIGHT Workshop, 750 Narragansett Park Drive, Rumford, RI 02916, John Gunn, Workshop Director

Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State technology program

Office of Rehabilitation Services

40 Fountain Street

Providence, RI 02903

Tel: (800) 916-8324

(401) 421-7005

(401) 421-7016 (TDD/TTY)

(401) 222-3574 (Fax)

www.atap.state.ri.us

Regina Connor, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase knowledge about and access to Assistive Technology.

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Advocates on behalf of individuals to help them obtain appropriate assistive technology from publicly funded programs.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Works with transition programs to make technology more accessible to young people moving from high school to adult life; provides information and resources to Rhode Island schools to ensure that assistive technology is considered in student's individualized education plan; and works with early intervention programs to improve access to technology for children under three years old.

Employment: Works with state agencies to ensure the consideration of assistive technology in all phases of the vocational rehabilitation process; works to increase employment opportunities by raising awareness of assistive technology among the business community; and works with the state workforce development system to ensure access and appropriate use of assistive technology by employers.

Rhode Island Department of Education: Vision Services Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

1 Corliss Park
Providence, RI 02908
Tel: (401) 456-8072
(401) 222-4439 (Fax)
www.ridoe.net/Special_needs/VisionService.htm
Peter McWalters, Commissioner of Elementary and
Secondary Education
Kim Carson, Special Populations, rid03265@ride.ri.net
Thomas P. DiPaola, Director, Office of Special
Populations, tdipaola@ridoe.net
Clare Irwin, Program Information, cirwin@rideaf.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Providence County.
Geographic area served: Rhode Island.
Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Provides educational services for infants and toddlers, 0 to 42 months, and their families. Also includes orientation and mobility.
Education Services: Provides direct and consultant services to children ages 6-21 to provide compensatory skills for inclusion in the least restrictive educational setting.

Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

35 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
Tel: (401) 462-4000 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(401) 462-4000 (TDD/TTY)
(401) 462-0503 (Fax)
www.dea.state.ri.us/
E-mail: larry@dea.state.ri.us
Corinne Calise Russo, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To mobilize the human, physical, and financial resources available to plan, develop, and implement innovative programs to insure the dignity and independence of elderly persons.
Established: 1977.
County/District where located: Providence County.
Geographic area served: State of Rhode Island.
Ages served: 60 to 100.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 AM-4:00 PM.
Publications: The Older Rhode Islander.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Information and Referral to older persons.
Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance to communities in solving problems related to the elderly.
Information and Referral: Acts as clearinghouse for information, data, and materials relative to the elderly. Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Rhode Island Department of Health: Division of Family Health

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

3 Capitol Hill
Room 302
Providence, RI 02908-5097
Tel: (800) 942-7434
(401) 222-5929
(401) 222-5734 (Fax)
www.health.ri.gov/family/ei/index.php
David Hamel, Administrator of Early Intervention
Services, (401) 222-4632, daveh@doh.state.ri.us
Deborah Garneau, Part C Coordinator,
debg@doh.state.ri.us
Ruth Schennum, Part C Coordinator, (401) 222-5926

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Providence County.
Geographic area served: Rhode Island.
Ages served: 0 to 5.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Rhode Island's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Rhode Island Department of Human Services: Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program ■ State rehabilitation services

40 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02903-1898
Tel: (800) 752-8088
(401) 277-2382
(401) 222-1328 (Fax)
www.ors.state.ri.us

Gary B. Wier, Deputy Administrator, Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Services for the Blind, Visually Handicapped, (401) 222-2300, garyw@ors.ri.gov
 Linda Hughes, Project Director, Independent Living Services, (401) 222-2300, lhughes@ors.state.ri.us
 Susan Shapiro, Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer the federal-state vocational rehabilitation program, Randolph-Sheppard vending facilities program, independent living program and social services program.

Geographic area served: Rhode Island.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, visually impaired (acuity of 20/60), deaf-blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides evaluation and assessment for vocational training and placement.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Counseling: Offers individual, family/parent, group counseling, casework evaluation, psychological testing, placement in training or institution, referral to community services, educational placements, vocational assessment and counseling.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, job retention, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending stand training.

Health/Medical: Contracts for medical diagnoses, physical restoration and treatment.

Information and Referral: Information and referral services provided.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in rehabilitation counseling, social work, vocational rehabilitation.

Recreation: Conducts a camp for blind/visually impaired children and teens.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, handwriting, typing, home management, remedial education, and sensory training in client's home and community. Oversees Older Blind Independent Living Program.

Rhode Island Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 438
 Greenville, RI 02828
 Tel: (800) 491-7550
 (401) 949-4330
 (401) 949-4707 (Fax)
 www.rioa.org/
 E-mail: tbonin@rioa@earthlink.net
 Alice Stanelun, Executive Director, stanelun@aol.com

Rhode Island Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

235 Promenade Street
 Suite 500, #20
 Providence, RI 02908
 Tel: (401) 331-1501
 (401) 751-8050 (Fax)
 Sarah Stevens, Executive Director, sstevens@rimed.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Rhode Island.

Saving Sight Rhode Island

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Social service organization

982 West Shore Road
 Warwick, RI 02889
 Tel: (401) 738-1150
 (401) 732-0034 (Fax)
 E-mail: dvigeant@savingsightri.org
 Donna L. Vigeant, Executive Director,
 dvigeant@savingsightri.org
 Patraicia Budrock, Administrative Assistant,
 pbudrock@savingsightri.org
 Barbara Leahy, Client Services Administrator,
 bleahy@savingsightri.org
 Elizabeth Millar, Children's Service Administrator,
 lmillar@savingsightri.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To screen for, educate and use every available resource to obtain treatment for vision disorders. We network within our diverse community to identify Rhode Islanders of all ages to eliminate vision loss.

Established: 1965.

Geographic area served: All of Rhode Island.

Eligibility requirements: Low/Moderate Income.

Ages served: 1 to 105.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Budget: \$217,000.

Clients served annually: 15,000.

Staff: 5.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Information and Referral to older persons.

Health/Medical: Provides early detection vision screenings for children, adults and seniors. Project Eye Care Program obtains comprehensive eye exams and treatment for those who meet application criteria.

Information and Referral: Offers Education information on Eye Health and Safety for all ages. Will refer client for necessary treatment.

Talking Books Plus, Office of Library and Information Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

One Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

Tel: (401) 222-5800

(401) 222-4195 (Fax)

www.ori.ri.gov/tbp/

E-mail: tbplus@ori.state.ri.us

Andrew Egan, Librarian, andyen@gw.doa.state.ri.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Providence County.

Geographic area served: Rhode Island.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

South Carolina

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor Office
on Aging
(800) 868-9095

South Carolina Commission for the Blind
(800) 922-2222

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

South Carolina Department of Health and
Environmental Control: Baby Net
(800) 868-0404

Educational Services

South Carolina Department of Education:
Office of Exceptional Children
(803) 734-8222

Rehabilitation Services

South Carolina Commission for the Blind
(800) 922-2222

School for the Blind

South Carolina School for the Deaf and the
Blind
(888) 447-2732

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

South Carolina Commission for the Blind
Walton Options for Independent Living

Infant/Preschool Agencies

South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind

Libraries

Talking Book Services, South Carolina State Library
(NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

South Carolina Commission for the Blind

Membership Organizations (Professional)

South Carolina Optometric Association
South Carolina Society of Ophthalmology

Radio Reading Stations

South Carolina Educational Radio for the Blind

Rehabilitation Agencies

Association for the Blind
Walton Options for Independent Living

Schools for the Blind

South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind

State Technology Programs

South Carolina Assistive Technology Project

Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1071 Morrison Drive
 Charleston, SC 29403
 Tel: (843) 723-6915
 (843) 577-4312 (Fax)
www.tuw.org/Agencies/aftb.html
 Cornelia Pelzer, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Charleston County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers ongoing counseling groups, varied informal educational classes for self-improvement.

Recreation: Social activities: beep ball, walking, and bowling. Social activities.

Rehabilitation: Offers braille instruction and crafts classes.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor Office on Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

1331 Sumter Street
 Suite 200
 Columbia, SC 29201
 Tel: (800) 868-9095
 (803) 898-2850
www.dhhs.state.sc.us

Bruce E. Bondo, Deputy Director, Division of Planning and Educational Services, bondo@dhhs.state.sc.us
 Cornelia Gibbons, Director, gibbonsn@dhhs.state.sc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the quality of life of older South Carolinians.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Over 60 years of age.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Publications: Mature Adults Count, Aging Resources.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

South Carolina Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

USC School of Medicine
 University Center for Excellence
 Columbia, SC 29208
 Tel: (803) 935-5263 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (803) 935-4352 (Fax)
www.sc.edu/scatp/
 E-mail: youngs@cdd.sc.edu

Evelyn Evans, Project Director, evelyne@cdd.sc.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance independence, productivity and quality of life for all South Carolinians through access to assistive technology devices and services.

Established: 1991.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training, technical assistance and works with consumers, service providers, state agencies and policy makers to support children and adults with disabilities in their efforts to acquire and use technology as a routine part of day-to-day living.

South Carolina Commission for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Independent living program
- Low vision center/clinic
- State rehabilitation services

P.O. Box 79
 Columbia, SC 29202-0079
 Tel: (800) 922-2222 (In South Carolina only.)
 (803) 898-8700
 (803) 898-8852 (Fax)

www.sccb.state.sc.us/
 E-mail: publicinfo@sccb.state.sc.us

Nell C. Carney, Commissioner
 James V. Stuart, Project Director, Independent Living Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote the dignity and the development of opportunities for independence, including employment, for South Carolina residents of all ages who are blind or severely visually impaired.

County/District where located: Richland County.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Client fees, government grants, private donations, public funds, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides diagnostic and developmental assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach units provide independent living and mobility training in localities where 8-12 persons need and are eligible for such services.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides information and technical assistance to preschools, private, and public schools and agencies and organizations that work with blind individuals.

Counseling: Provides counseling and guidance.

Employment: Develops and promotes opportunities for independence and employment. Trains, licenses, and places qualified blind vendors in food service facilities located in public and private buildings. Assists with transition from school to work.

Health/Medical: Offers free eye screenings to prevent vision loss due to diabetes and glaucoma. Assists clients with medical services that help restore sight and maintain visual functioning.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to services in the community.

Low Vision: Maintains clinics in Columbia, Charleston, Florence, Spartanburg, and Waterloo offices. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Provides counseling and guidance for parents of children with visual impairments.

Recreation: Summer camping.

Rehabilitation: Introduces adaptive methods of performing activities of daily living. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and over.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Aiken: 855 York Street NE, Aiken, SC 29801

Charleston: Fairfield Office Park, Suite 109, Charleston, SC 29407

Conway: 311 Beaty Street, Conway, SC 29526

Florence: 825 West Evans Street, Florence, SC 29501

Greenville: 620 North Main Street, Greenville, SC 29601

Greenwood: 1 Park Plaza, Suite 15, Greenwood, SC 29646

Greer: 202 Victoria Street, Greer, SC 29650

Rock Hill: Rock Hill District Office, 1020 Heckle Boulevard, Rock Hill, SC 29732

South Carolina Department of Education: Office of Exceptional Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Rutledge Office Building

1429 Senate Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Tel: (803) 734-8222

(803) 734-8408 (TDD/TTY)

(803) 734-4605 (Fax)

www.myschools.com

Susan DuRant, Director, (803) 734-8806,
sdurant@sde.state.sc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide leadership and services to students, schools, students, and communities to enable all students, regardless of circumstance, to achieve academic success.

County/District where located: Richland County.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: 20/70 or less acuity.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 1 full-time for blind and visually impaired children.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to teachers of visually impaired children.

Education Services: Provides information on educational services for children with visual disabilities and consultations to public schools.

Preschool: Offers a program for 3 year olds.

Professional Training: Provides staff development programs for teachers.

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control: Baby Net

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

2600 Bull Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Tel: (800) 868-0404

(803) 898-0613 (Fax)

www.scdhec.net/babynet/

E-mail: motonjo@dhec.sc.gov

David K. Steele, Program Director, Children with
Special Health Care Needs,
steeldk@columb61.dhec.state.sc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide early intervention services to infants and toddlers birth to three years of age with special needs, including children with vision or hearing difficulties.

Established: 1994.

County/District where located: Richland County.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Must be birth to three years of age and have vision or hearing difficulties.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Clients served annually: 2,600.

Publications: Baby Net Works (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for South Carolina's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Parent Assistance: Provides parent-to-parent support.

South Carolina Educational Radio for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Radio reading station**

1430 Confederate Avenue
Columbia, SC 29201

Tel: (800) 922-2222 (In South Carolina only.)

(803) 898-8764

(803) 898-8797 (Fax)

Beth K. Jones, Manager, BJones@sccb.state.sc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve the lives of blind and visually impaired persons in South Carolina by providing access to current printed information.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Richland County.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Funded by: State funds.

Staff: 5 full-time; 80 volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, and books.

South Carolina Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Professional membership organization**

2730 Devine Street
Columbia, SC 29205

Tel: (803) 799-6721

(803) 799-2305 (Fax)

www.sc-eyecare.org/

E-mail: optichk1@aol.com

Claire Holley, Executive Director

South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind (SCSDB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Infant/preschool agency**

■ **School for the blind**

355 Cedar Springs Road

Spartanburg, SC 29302

Tel: (888) 447-2732 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(864) 585-7711 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(864) 585-3555 (Fax)

www.scsdb.k12.sc.us

Sheila Breitweiser, President, (864) 577-7500,

sbreitweiser@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Barbria Bacon, Education Services Director, (864)

577-7557, bbacon@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Rob Hair, Principal, School for the Blind, (864) 577-7600,

rhair@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Bobbie Hatchett, Technology Support Specialist, (864)

577-7549, bhatchett@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Jennifer Lauer, Human Resources Director, (864)

577-7526, jlauer@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Jim Little, Director, Counseling and Assessment, (864)

577-7670, jlittle@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Carol Mabry-Garrett, Vice President and Director of

Outreach Services, South Carolina School for the

Deaf and the Blind, (864) 577-7502,

cgarrett@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Lin Mackechnie, Special Education Director, (864)

577-7521, lmackechnie@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Katie Rice, Director, Public Information and

Information Technology, (864) 577-7506,

krice@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Lynda Smith, Early Intervention Services Director, (803)

896-9789, lsmith@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Jack Todd, Director, Learning Resource Center, (864)

577-7640, jtodd@scsdb.k12.sc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure that individuals we serve realize maximum success through high quality educational programs, outreach services and partnerships.

Established: 1849.

County/District where located: Spartanburg County.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Residents of South Carolina, under 21, vision and/or hearing disability.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day. Academic program 8:00 AM-3:15 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: 80% of students are residential.

Staff: Hire individuals with disabilities to provide role models for students attending SCSDB.

Fee structure: Free to qualified state residents.

Publications: The Parent Press.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides counseling and assessment services.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical consultation.

Early Intervention: Offers parent/infant early intervention program.

Education Services: Offers K-12 educational program for students who are deaf and blind. Produces educational materials in audiocassettes, large print, and braille for students.

Employment: Prevocational and vocational training provided.

Information and Referral: Public information department provides information/referral services.

Library: Learning resource center provides library services for blind/visually impaired.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Parent Assistance: Provides family support services.

Preschool: Provides preschool services.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Charleston: 1920C Dunbar Street, Charleston, SC 29407

Conway: 900 Fourth Avenue, Conway, SC 29526

Florence: 300 Rainbow Drive, Suite 208, Florence, SC 29501

Rock Hill: 197 Piedmont, Suite 202, Rock Hill, SC 29732

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Columbia: 100 Executive Center Drive, Suite A13, Columbia, SC 29210

South Carolina Society of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 1508

Columbia, SC 29202

Tel: (803) 254-6964

www.sceyemd.org

E-mail: scophthalmology@aol.com

Ronald C. Scott, Executive Director and Government Affairs Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Talking Book Services, South Carolina State Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1430 Senate Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Tel: (800) 922-7818

(803) 734-4611

(803) 734-7298 (TDD/TTY)

(803) 734-4610 (Fax)

www.state.sc.us/scsl/bph/

E-mail: lbphbooks@leo.scsl.state.sc.us

Christopher Yates, Director, chris@leo.scsl.state.sc.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To improve library services throughout the state and to ensure all citizens access to libraries and information resources. The state library supports libraries in meeting the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of the people of South Carolina.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Richland County.

Geographic area served: South Carolina.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: News About Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (quarterly newsletter).

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Newline Network for the Blind, South Carolina Education Radio Network.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Southeastern Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Alabama.

Walton Options for Independent Living

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Rehabilitation agency

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Center
Highway 421
Gloverville, SC 29828
Tel: (803) 593-8545 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(803) 593-6629 (Fax)
www.waltonoptions.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower persons of all ages with all types of disabilities to reach their highest level of independence, including community inclusion and employment.

Geographic area served: 6 counties in western South Carolina.

Funded by: Private donations, public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Promotes inclusion of people with disabilities in federal, state and local government by

educating public officials and the general public about the needs of people with all types of disabilities.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers training in braille in a small group setting.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print).

Computer Training: Offers information, training, advocacy, and loans on a wide array of assistive technology.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Assists public and private buildings to comply with accessibility requirements.

Information and Referral: Offers information on a wide variety of topics such as disability sensitivity/awareness, ADA and other disability rights, and assistive technology. Maintains a Resource Room with books, videos, audiocassettes, and a computer with internet access for consumers to use.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides independent living related services to people of all ages with all types of disabilities. Classes offered in group setting or on an individual basis, taught by peers.

South Dakota

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

South Dakota Department of Human Services:
Division of Service to the Blind and Visually
Impaired
(800) 265-9684

South Dakota Department of Social Services:
Office of Adult Services and Aging
(866) 854-5465

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

South Dakota Office of Educational Services
and Supports: Special Education Programs
(605) 773-3678

Educational Services

South Dakota Office of Educational Services
and Supports: Special Education Programs
(605) 773-3678

Instructional Materials Center

South Dakota Braille and Talking Book
Library
(800) 423-6665

Rehabilitation Services

South Dakota Department of Human Services:
Division of Service to the Blind and Visually
Impaired
(800) 265-9684

School for the Blind

South Dakota School for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(888) 275-3814

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Library (NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Council of Schools for the Blind
South Dakota Academy of Ophthalmology
South Dakota Optometric Association

National Organizations

Council of Schools for the Blind

Postsecondary Institutions

Northern State University: Special Education Program

Rehabilitation Agencies

South Dakota Industries for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually
Impaired

State Technology Programs

South Dakota Assistive Technology Project

Council of Schools for the Blind (COSB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Northern State University: Special Education Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

1200 South Jay Street

Aberdeen, SD 57401

Tel: (605) 626-3169

(605) 626-3102 (Fax)

www.northern.edu

E-mail: info@northern.edu

Connie Geier, Coordinator of Special Education
Programs, geierc@northern.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Brown County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate program for teachers of the visually handicapped.

South Dakota Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1117 East Broadway

Helena, MT 59624

Phone #1: (406) 449-2334 (Local)

Phone #2: (406) 449-3359 (Fax)

Gloria J. Hermanson, Executive Director,
hermansn@bresnan.net

South Dakota Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

1925 Plaza Boulevard

Rapid City, SD 57702

Tel: (800) 224-5336 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(605) 224-5336 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(605) 224-8320 (Fax)

www.dakotalink.tie.net

Dave Vogel, Project Manager, dvogel@tie.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To identify and design strategies that eliminate or overcome barriers to individuals with disabilities accessing assistive technology in a timely manner.

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Develops and monitors changes in laws, rules, regulation, policies and practices to provide greater access to assistive technology devices and services and develop and implement strategies to overcome barriers to receiving assistive technology devices and services.

Assistive Products: Conducts training activities throughout the state in order to continue promotion of assistive technology awareness. Maintains four geographically located Demonstration Centers across the state for the purpose of allowing individuals with varying disabilities to try out different assistive devices.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach and training to underrepresented and rural populations.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Coordinates assistive technology activities among state agencies to increase access to, provision of and funding for assistive technology.

South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

■ National Library Service library

State Library Building

800 Governors Drive

Pierre, SD 57501-2294

Tel: (800) 423-6665 (Toll free within South Dakota)

(605) 773-3131

(605) 773-6962 (Fax)

www.sdstatelibrary.com/b&tb/

E-mail: connie.sullivan@state.sd.us

Daniel W. Boyd, Director, dan.boyd@state.sd.us

Connie Sullivan, Program Coordinator, (605) 773-5081,
connie.sullivan@state.sd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access to print materials in braille, recorded, or large-print formats.

Established: 1966.

Geographic area served: South Dakota.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Budget: \$356,000.

Clients served annually: 5,700.

Staff: 8. Director, Program Assistant, 3 Reader Advisors, 1 Educational Materials Coordinator, 1 A/V Technician, Library Clerks.

Fee structure: Free service.

Publications: Adults and children's newsletters (quarterly). Braille Association Newsletter (quarterly).

Additional information: Regional Braille & Talking Book Library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in South Dakota. Textbooks available in large print, braille, audiocassette, digital, CD.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, descriptive videos, radio talking book, SD telephone newspapers, and summer reading program for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Rapid City Journal, Sioux Falls Argus Leader, Aberdeen American News, Yaukton Daily Press & Dakotan.

South Dakota Department of Human Services: Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

3800 East Highway 34

500 East Capitol

Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Tel: (800) 265-9684

(605) 773-4644

(605) 773-5483 (Fax)

www.state.sd.us/dhs/sbvi

Gaye Mattke, Director, gaye.mattke@state.sd.us

Jeff Kisecker, Program Specialist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide individualized rehabilitation services which result in optimal employment and independent living outcomes for citizens who are blind and visually impaired.

County/District where located: Hughes County.

Geographic area served: South Dakota.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or visually impaired, resident of South Dakota.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: South Dakota Rehabilitation Center for the Blind, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Staff: 35 full-time, 12 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment for vocational rehabilitation, low vision, independent living.

Computer Training: Database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Offers help with transition and personal adjustment skills and vocational, peer, and family counseling.

Employment: Offers vocational evaluation, exploration, work adjustment, job-seeking skills services, job placement follow-up, and supported employment services.

Information and Referral: Information and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers regular in-service training program; open to enrollment by other organizations.

Reading Services: Rapid City Journal, USA Today.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in communications, independent living skills, leisure time activity, self-advocacy, in-home rehabilitation teaching services, vocational evaluation, exploration, work adjustment, job-seeking skills services, job placement, and supported employment.

LOCAL OFFICES

Aberdeen: 315 South Wilson, Aberdeen, SD 57401-5055

Rapid City: 111-A New York Street, Time Square Plaza, Rapid City, SD 57701-1156

Sioux Falls: 811 East Tenth Street, Department 22, Sioux Falls, SD 57103

Sioux Falls: Blind Rehabilitation Center, 800 West Avenue North, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-5796, Dawn Backer, Acting VR Manager

South Dakota Department of Social Services: Office of Adult Services and Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State unit on aging

700 Governors Drive

Pierre, SD 57501-2291

Tel: (866) 854-5465

(605) 773-3656 (Information and Referral)

(605) 773-6834 (Fax)

www.state.sd.us/social/asa/

E-mail: ASA@STATE.SD.US

Gail Ferris, Administrator, gail.ferris@state.sd.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

South Dakota Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

801 North Lake Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Tel: (800) 223-5145
(605) 977-1577 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (If using TDD/TTY. Call first to allow us to use the system for your call.)
(605) 332-7047 (Fax)
www.sdib.org
E-mail: info@sdib.org
Toby L. Fladmark, CEO, tobyf@sdib.org
Tammy Kuehn, Chief Financial Officer,
tammyk@sdib.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment opportunities for individuals who are blind, visually impaired, or have other severe disabilities.

Established: 1997.

County/District where located: Minnehaha.

Geographic area served: United States.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, other disabilities.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Budget: \$1,000,000.

Clients served annually: 30.

Staff: 3. CEO, CFO, Floor Supervisor.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides training in development of work skills, job placement and retention, situational community-based evaluation, braille services, job coaching services, employment services. Manufactures large-print items. Distributes latex gloves, vinyl gloves, nitrile gloves, other medical disposables. Manufactures crosses and crucifixes for the mortuary industry.

South Dakota Office of Educational Services and Supports: Special Education Programs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State educational services

700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2291
Tel: (605) 773-3678
(605) 773-6302 (TDD/TTY)
(605) 773-6846 (Fax)
www.state.sd.us/deca/Special/transproj.htm
Janet Ricketts, Director, janet.ricketts@state.sd.us
Sherrie Fines, Part C Coordinator,
sherrie.fines@state.sd.us

Barb Hemmelman, Education Program Assistant
Manager, barb.hemmelman@state.sd.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advocate for the availability of the full range of personnel, programming, and placement options, including early intervention and transition services, required to assure that all individuals with disabilities are able to achieve maximum independence upon exiting from school.

County/District where located: Hughes County.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Eligibility requirements: IDEA Parts B and C.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 8:00 to 5:00 M-F.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: see DOE website.

Additional information: State education agency.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for South Dakota's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Coordinates early intervention programs for preschoolers in South Dakota.

Education Services: Assures that children with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE). Part B staff members coordinate the implementation of policies and procedures, provide training and technical assistance, and monitor programs that provide special education and related services.

South Dakota Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 1173
Pierre, SD 57501
Tel: (605) 224-8199
(605) 224-6047 (Fax)
www.sdeyes.org
E-mail: sdeyes3@pie.mico.net
Cathie Ellis, Executive Director

South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SDSBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

423 17th Avenue SE
Aberdeen, SD 57401-7699
Tel: (888) 275-3814
(605) 626-2580
(888) 275-3814 (TDD/TTY)
(605) 626-2580 (TDD/TTY)

(605) 626-2607 (Fax)

www.sdsbvi.sdbor.edu/

Marjorie A. Kaiser, Superintendent,
kaiserm@sdsbvi.northern.edu

R. Lee Ginsbach, Business Manager,
ginsbacr@sdsbvi.northern.edu

Mark Krogstrand, Principal, (005) 626-2607 (Fax),
krogstrm@sdsbvi.northern.edu

Dawn LaMee, Liaison for Services,
lameed@sdsbvi.northern.edu

Janel Ludwig, Student Services Director,
ludwigj@sdsbvi.northern.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide statewide services to meet the educational needs of children with sensory impairments (totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind) from birth through twenty-one in South Dakota by serving in a dual leadership and resource role in the statewide efforts to serve these students. This mission will be carried out through cooperative efforts with all appropriate state agencies, educational cooperatives, local education agencies and colleges and universities. It is recognized that the mission of the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a significant part of the continuum of services in the statewide delivery system for children in need of special education or special education and related services.

Established: 1900.

County/District where located: Brown County.

Geographic area served: South Dakota. Out of state tuition students.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Residential services available to students.

Budget: \$2,839,927.

Clients served annually: 160.

Staff: 55. All program staff are certified or state licensed in their areas of expertise.

Fee structure: Out-of-state tuition for instruction and residential program is set by the South Dakota Board of Regents.

Publications: Newsletter: Pioneer and Brochures: General Information, Outreach Services & Transition Services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Outreach Vision Consultants assist parents and local schools in providing appropriate educational programs, on-site visits, in-service training, educational materials and resources. Services in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Rapid City.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems.

Counseling: Provides social evaluation, psychological testing and evaluation, individual and group counseling.

Education Services: Provides a full academic program, kindergarten through high school, with special emphasis given to adapting teaching materials and teaching methods to meet the needs of visually impaired students. Offers coursework in independent travel, activities of daily living, low vision utilization, use of specialized equipment, and preparation for employment.

Employment: Provides transition services statewide, pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, vocational placement, follow-up service.

Health/Medical: Nursing, speech therapy. Contracts occupational therapy, physical therapy and refers for other health services.

Information and Referral: Refers and provides consultation to other agencies.

Library: Maintains a library of materials in braille, large type, standard type, talking books and magazines in both disc and cassette formats.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Preschool: Full preschool program.

Professional Training: Provides internship/field placement, low vision, orientation and mobility, special education and offers regular in-service training programs, open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, bowling, swimming, track, wrestling, rifle club, cross country skiing.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Tennessee

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability
(866) 836-6678

Tennessee Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
(800) 628-7818

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Tennessee Department of Education: Office of Special Education
(888) 212-3162

Educational Services

Tennessee Department of Education: Office of Special Education
(888) 212-3162

Instructional Materials Center

Tennessee Resource Center for the Visually Impaired
(615) 231-7340

Rehabilitation Services

Tennessee Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
(800) 628-7818

School for the Blind

Tennessee School for the Blind
(615) 231-7300

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Tennessee Unit
Temple Israel Sisterhood
Tennessee Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Educational Agencies

Memphis City Schools: Colonial Visually Limited Center

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Tennessee
Tennessee Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Tennessee State Library and Archives
VITAL (Visually Impaired Training and Learning) Center

Libraries

Tennessee Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Tennessee State Library and Archives (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Peabody College of Vanderbilt University: Department of Special Education, Program in Visual Disabilities
Southern College of Optometry
VITAL (Visually Impaired Training and Learning) Center

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology
Tennessee Optometric Association

Postsecondary Institutions

Peabody College of Vanderbilt University: Department of Special Education, Program in Visual Disabilities

Radio Reading Stations

Nashville Talking Library
WYPL-FM

Rehabilitation Agencies

Alliance for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Ed Lindsey Industries for the Blind
 Lions Volunteer Blind Industries/Opportunity East
 Tennessee Rehabilitation Center
 VITAL (Visually Impaired Training and Learning)
 Center
 West Tennessee Special Technology Access Resource
 Center

Residential Facilities

Clover Bottom Developmental Center

Schools for the Blind

Tennessee School for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Tennessee Technology Access Project

Alliance for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4700 Poplar Avenue
 Suite 100
 Memphis, TN 38117
 Tel: (901) 766-0600
 (901) 766-0699 (Fax)
www.memphis seniors.com/ABVI.htm
 E-mail: joyce_tudor@memphis seniors.com
 Joyce Maddox-Tudor, COMS (Certified Orientation and
 Mobility Specialist),
joyce_tudor@memphis seniors.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To maximize each individual's optimum potential throughout life's stages.

County/District where located: Shelby County.

Geographic area served: Shelby County, or via service contract for anyone residing outside Shelby County.

Eligibility requirements: Must present with documented visual acuities of 20/70 in the better eye with best correction or visual field loss of 20 degrees or smaller. Documented visual acuities cannot be older than one year.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Access for all disabilities.

Funded by: Client fees, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Clients served annually: 350.

Staff: 1. Certified O&M specialist since 1997.

Fee structure: Sliding scale fee or covered by Vocational Rehabilitation.

Publications: Monthly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Counseling, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Preschool Programs, Rehabilitation Services, Volunteer Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, low vision and media and environmental assessments.

Assistive Products: Adaptive aids store available to the general public.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultations to public or private schools for their visually impaired students.

Counseling: Provides information and has a monthly support group.

Information and Referral: Refers to local, regional, or national resources depending on client need.

Low Vision: Supplies functional aids for clients with low vision.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training at work, school, or other needed environment; telescope evaluation; sunshield evaluation; dog guide training.

Preschool: Consults with public schools, offers orientation and mobility assessment and training, low vision assessment and training, media and environmental assessment.

Professional Training: Provides a site for students who are seeking internship training in O&M, Optometry and social work.

Rehabilitation: Provides activities of daily living skills such as home management, money management, organization and labeling skills, communication skills, braille instruction etc.

Volunteer Services: Welcomes volunteers who are willing to make phone calls, stuff envelopes, assist with monthly newsletter, and a variety of other volunteer opportunities.

Clover Bottom Developmental Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Residential facility

275 Stewarts Ferry Pike
 Nashville, TN 37214
 Tel: (615) 231-5000
 (615) 231-5074 (Fax)

Levi Harris, Superintendent

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1923.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: 40 middle Tennessee Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Mental retardation with visual challenges as primary diagnosis.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Database software, word processing.

Housing Services: Offers housing for those with a primary diagnosis of mental retardation, secondary diagnosis of a visual challenge.

Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

346 St. Paul Avenue
Memphis, TN 38126

Tel: (901) 523-9590

(901) 523-1480 (Fax)

www.clovernook.org

E-mail: memphis@clovernook.org

Edith M. Gholson, Regional VP,
memphis@clovernook.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote independence and foster the highest quality of life for people with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities.

Established: 1999.

County/District where located: Shelby.

Geographic area served: Northeast Arkansas, Northwest Mississippi, West Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM (Central).

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Clients served annually: 100.

Staff: 40.

Publications: Connections; Perspective; TIPS (Accommodation in the Hospitality Industry) Braille/Large Print Menus.

Additional information: CATS (Clovernook Assistive Technology Store) sells non-prescriptive low vision aids. Summer Youth Program (Discovery Youth Camp) encourages kids with visual impairments to develop valuable social skills, participate in recreational activities and receive job training. Younger students

receive personal adjustment and pre-employment training; older students receive help with job placement in summer employment. Clovernook Memphis manufactures biodegradable/compostable and traditional paper cups and a dozen different styles of pressboard file folders.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment to older persons.

Employment: Offers vocational counseling, transitional work services, job coaching, job development, work adjustment.

Ed Lindsey Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4110 Charlotte Avenue
Nashville, TN 37209

Tel: (615) 627-4012

(615) 627-4015 (Fax)

W. Allen D. Broughton, Executive Vice President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment for visually impaired persons.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides employment for persons who are legally blind. Manufactures brooms, mops, chinstraps, pillows, all to government specifications. "Seconds" sold in on-site thrift shop.

Rehabilitation: Offers rehabilitation program to train and place visually impaired persons in jobs.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Southeastern Region Office (HKNC)

See Georgia.

Lions Volunteer Blind Industries/Opportunity East

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

758 West Morris Boulevard
Morristown, TN 37813

Tel: (423) 586-3998

(423) 586-2004 (Fax)

www.opportunityeast.org

Fred Overbay, Executive Director, fred@volblind.org

Don Britton, Assistant Executive Director,
don@volblind.org

Vic Mende, Director of Rehabilitation, vic@volblind.org
Janis Price, Rehabilitation Teacher

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through comprehensive training and support so that they can become integrated and productive within their communities.

Established: 1951.

County/District where located: Hamblen County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Referral from State Department of Rehabilitation.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory available.

Clients served annually: 180.

Staff: 10.

Fee structure: Prepaid contract with Tennessee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Evaluates for pre-vocational, independent living, orientation and mobility, and basic computer skills.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, work adjustment, job readiness training, placement services. Provides entry-level training for the Tennessee Business Enterprise Program (www.tnwend.com).

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Provides training for individuals with employment goals in the areas of telephone customer service, answering service, reservations, sales and related fields.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home/personal management, communication, travel, and other adaptive skills.

Memphis City Schools: Colonial Visually Limited Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

1360 Colonial Road

Annex B

Memphis, TN 38117

Tel: (901) 761-8960

www.memphis-schools.k12.tn.us/admin/studentprogs/visuallylimited/homepage1.html

Jean Tate, Supervisor, jeantate@msn.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to Memphis City Schools students with visual impairments.

County/District where located: Shelby County.

Geographic area served: Memphis.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00AM-4:00PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Screens over 40,000 students enrolled in Memphis City Schools and private Schools.

Counseling: Offers counseling for parents.

Education Services: Offers comprehensive public school programs to blind and visually impaired children. Maintains three elementary level resource rooms for children with visual impairments to provide intensive daily intervention for students who have specialized visual needs. The support services are provided in addition to the regular classroom program.

Preschool: Offers preschool program for students aged three through six years old at Hanley Elementary. Prepares students for entry into the regular school program through educational and fun learning experiences.

Nashville Talking Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

505 Heritage Drive

Madison, TN 37210

Tel: (615) 862-5874

(615) 862-5796 (Fax)

Fran Ziglar, Station Manager, fran.ziglar@nashville.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: 100-mile radius from Nashville (43 counties in middle Tennessee).

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Provides audio information services.

**Peabody College of Vanderbilt University:
Department of Special Education, Program
in Visual Disabilities**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Postsecondary institution

Box 328, Peabody College

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN 37203

Tel: (615) 322-2249

(615) 343-1570 (Fax)

www.vanderbilt.edu

Anne Corn, Coordinator, Programs in Visual Disabilities, anne.corn@vanderbilt.edu
 Brandi McRedmond, Coordinator, Project PAVE, (615) 936-3718, (615) 936-3466 (Fax), brandi.mcredmond@vanderbilt.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To contribute to the education of professionals in the field of visual disabilities. To instill in professionals the ability to have an open mind, to be problem solvers, and to act as collaborators. To contribute and incorporate a broad base of knowledge and strive to find new theories in which to practice the art of advocacy, leadership and partnership. As we strive towards these goals, we keep in mind that our actions must work toward positively influencing the lives of infants, toddlers, children, and youths with visual disabilities.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Students preparing to be teachers come from all parts of the United States and other countries. Project PAVE (Providing Access to the Visual Environment) serves children with low vision residing in Tennessee.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM Central Time Zone.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Please contact Dr. Corn for a listing of publications.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Project PAVE provides clinical low vision and educational assessment for children ages 3-21.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical assistance to schools in which Project PAVE children are enrolled and to their parents.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services through Project PAVE.

Low Vision: Provides evaluation and follow up for Project PAVE children and youths. Provides instruction in the use of optical devices to Project PAVE children and youths.

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate and graduate (master's, doctoral) programs for teachers of students with visual impairments.

Professional Training: Offers continuing programs in visual disabilities.

Prevent Blindness Tennessee

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

95 White Bridge Road
 Suite 513
 Nashville, TN 37205
 Tel: (800) 335-0450
 (615) 352-0450

(616) 352-5750 (Fax)
 www.preventblindnesstn.org
 E-mail: askpbt@preventblindnesstn.org

Alice Orr, Executive Director
 Jeane McCullough, Program Director, Aging Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve and restore sight.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Publications: Living with Sight Loss (low vision resource guide).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Assessment: Vision/glaucoma screenings.

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program and glaucoma screening for the elderly.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health, and eye safety.

Library: Full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Tennessee Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

205 Badger Road
 Oak Ridge, TN 37830-6216
 Tel: (865) 482-3496
 (865) 483-9934 (Fax)
 www.rfbd.org
 E-mail: tennessee@rfbd.org

Brian L. Jenkins, Executive Director, bjenkins@rfbd.org
 Jennifer Hayes, Studio Director, jhayes@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Anderson County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks. Membership

is required to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, Fri. 8:00 AM-1:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp.

Budget: \$320,000.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 7.5 full-time, 2 part-time.

Publications: Local newsletters.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Textbooks.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Southern College of Optometry

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

1245 Madison Avenue

Memphis, TN 38104

Tel: (901) 722-3250

(901) 722-3275 (Fax)

www.sco.edu

Tressa Eubank, Chief, Low Vision Rehabilitation Services, (901) 722-3276, (901) 722-3350 (Fax), teubank@sco.edu

Jimmy Elam, Low Vision Staff Doctor

Ralph Parkansky, Low Vision Staff Doctor

Nicole Patterson, Low Vision Staff Doctor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To educate men and women in the art and science of optometry and to provide comprehensive optometric low vision rehabilitation for persons with vision impairment.

Established: 1932.

County/District where located: Shelby County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessibility.

Staff: Optometrist; optometry student/resident; low vision assistant.

Publications: Visionet (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers complete range of optometric assessments.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes, dispenses, and instructs in the use of low vision devices.

Temple Israel Sisterhood

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1376 East Massey Street

Memphis, TN 38120

Tel: (901) 761-3130

(901) 761-1448 (Fax)

Viki Poole, Chair, Service to the Blind, brailletchr@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Shelby County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Textbooks; recreational; career/vocational; religious; personal requests.

Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 681806

Franklin, TN 37068-1806

Tel: (615) 794-1851

(615) 791-6032 (Fax)

www.tneyemds.org

E-mail: taomds@mindstate.com

Sue Carson-Chasteen, Director, suechasteen@comcast.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality, comprehensive, cost-effective, convenient and caring eye and vision care to our patients. To provide information that will help our patients and public learn to recognize eye problems and provide resources for assistance. To assist members with scientific education, practice management training, assistance, health plan and legislative advocacy.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

500 Deaderick Street
Ninth Floor
Andrew Jackson Building
Nashville, TN 37243-0860
Tel: (866) 836-6678
(615) 741-2056
(615) 741-3309 (Fax)
www.state.tn.us/comaging/
E-mail: tnaging.tnaging@state.tn.us
Nancy Peace, Executive Director,
nancy.peace@state.tn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To protect the rights, meet the needs, and preserve the dignity of older residents through visible and effective advocacy, leadership, and stewardship.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies and information on other local aging services. Referral to resources and information is available statewide through TCAD and area agencies.

Tennessee Department of Education: Office of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

■ State educational services

Andrew Johnson Tower
710 James Robertson Parkway, 5th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
Tel: (888) 212-3162
(615) 741-2851
(615) 532-9412 (Fax)
www.state.tn.us/education/speced/index.htm
Joseph Fisher, Assistant Commissioner,
Joe.Fisher@state.tn.us
Brenda Bledsoe, Director, Office of Early Childhood Programs,
brenda.bledsoe@state.tn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide educational services and referrals to handicapped, visually impaired, blind and multiply disabled students.

Established: 1947.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Tennessee's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Education Services: Administers supplemental state funds for visually handicapped children attending local schools. Distributes braille and large-print books, tapes, tape recorders, and talking books.

Tennessee Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Tennessee State Library and Archives

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ National Library Service library

403 7th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243-0313
Tel: (800) 342-3308
(615) 741-3915
(800) 848-0298 (TDD/TTY)
(615) 532-8856 (Fax)
www.state.tn.us/sos/statelib/LBPH
E-mail: tlbph.tsla@state.tn.us
Ruth Hemphill, Director
Janie Murphree, Assistant Director,
Janie.Murphree@state.tn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for the visually impaired so that all may read.

Established: 1970.

Geographic area served: State of Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print. Also provides services to schools and residential care facilities who serve these individuals.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 5-6,000.

Staff: 15.

Fee structure: None.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, magazines and players, large-print books, and braille books and magazines for persons who are unable to read standard print, due to a physical disability.

Tennessee Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

2727 Branford Avenue
Nashville, TN 37204
Tel: (615) 269-9092
(615) 269-5986 (Fax)
www.toaonline.org
E-mail: garylodom@aol.com

Tennessee Rehabilitation Center (TRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

460 Ninth Avenue
Smyrna, TN 37167-2010
Tel: (615) 459-6811
(615) 355-1373 (Fax)
www.state.tn.us/humanserv/Trcindex.htm
E-mail: Human-Services.Webmaster@state.tn.us
Gale Demick, Director, Gale.Demick@state.tn.us
David Holmes, Superintendent,
David.Holmes@state.tn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive rehabilitation and referral services.

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Rutherford County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, Tennessee resident.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories available for adults.

Funded by: Public funds, state funds.

Fee structure: No fee to client.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Evaluations available as part of various training programs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Internet.

Counseling: Offers psychological testing and evaluation and individual/group counseling.

Employment: Provides vocational evaluation, training in job-seeking skills, and counseling.

Health/Medical: Offers occupational/physical/speech therapy.

Low Vision: Provides functional low vision assessments.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers recreational therapy and a variety of activities including community outings, bowling, and arts/crafts.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living and communication skills, assistive technology, low vision, adaptive kitchen skills, home and personal management, and orientation and mobility. Offers programs in basic education and adult continuing education.

Tennessee Resource Center for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

Tennessee School for the Blind
115 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Nashville, TN 37214
Tel: (615) 231-7340
(615) 231-7408 (Fax)
www.tsb.k12tn.net/TSB_Website_folders/
Resource%20Center/resource_center.htm
Carol McCarroll, Director, cmccarroll@tsb.k12tn.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access to instructional materials in the appropriate media in a timely manner to students with visual disabilities, including those with multiple disabilities, enrolled in local education agencies across the state of Tennessee.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Tennessee.

Tennessee School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

115 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Nashville, TN 37214
Tel: (615) 231-7300
(615) 871-9312 (Fax)
www.tsb.k12tn.net/schoolhome.htm
Jim Oldham, Superintendent, joldham@tsb.k12tn.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind, learning disabled, and mentally retarded individuals and parent training for families with preschool children who are visually impaired or blind.

Established: 1844.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, resident of Tennessee.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
12-month program operates within school hours.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Residential Facilities: Yes.

Staff: 185 full-time. Uses volunteers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides braille and large type textbooks and ancillaries (practice exercises, texts, and workbooks and other accompanying materials) and non-book instructional materials such as braillewriters and bold-line paper, cassette recorder/players, low vision materials, tactile devices, and kits that include sensory development items for students with visual impairment, including those with multiple disabilities, who are enrolled in public and private schools less than college level and who meet state eligibility requirements for visual impairment as determined by the IEP Team.

Assessment: Provides preschool low vision and functional vision diagnostic program.

Community Outreach Programs: Has programs to identify and evaluate visually impaired children. Speakers bureau.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation services to schools and districts.

Counseling: Provides parent counseling and psychological evaluations.

Education Services: Provides instruction in all developmental areas and offers center- and home-based, preschool-grade 12, and nongraded programs college prep, general academic, and prevocational programs.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, office occupations. Vocational work-study, on-the-job training at local businesses.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment, genetic counseling, various health services, including low vision exams. Clinic provided for students.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Parent training available for parents of preschool children.

Preschool: Offers programs for 3 and 4 year olds.

Professional Training: Offers internship/field work placement in low vision, orientation and mobility, special education and teacher training.

Recreation: Offers arts and crafts, hobby groups, residential summer camp, bowling, swimming, track, wrestling. Refers for other recreational services.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in daily living and personal management and in the use of adaptive devices.

Tennessee Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

400 Deaderick Street

11th Floor

Nashville, TN 37248-6200

Tel: (800) 628-7818 (In state only.)

(615) 313-4914

(615) 313-6617 (Fax)

www.state.tn.us/humanserv/vis-home.html

Terry C. Smith, Director, (615) 313-4921,
terry.smith@state.tn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a variety of individualized services to blind or visually impaired Tennesseans to ensure freedom of choice and to allow independence in their lives. Organization provides services for the workplace, school, community, and home.

Established: 1943.

County/District where located: Davidson County.

Geographic area served: Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment causing functional limitations.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Employment: Provides vocational rehabilitation.

Reading Services: Newsline for the Blind.

Rehabilitation: Provides independent living services for older blind individuals.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Chattanooga: 311 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Chattanooga, TN 37403

Columbia: 209 Wayne Street, Columbia, TN 38401

Cookeville: 444 Neal Street, East, Cookeville, TN 38561

Jackson: 225 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Jackson, TN 38301

Johnson City: P.O. Box 2120, Johnson City, TN 37605

Knoxville: 531 Henley Street, Fifth Floor, Knoxville, TN 37902

Memphis: 170 North Main Street, 3rd Floor, Memphis, TN 38103

Nashville: 88 Hermitage Avenue, Nashville, TN 37210

Paris: 2331 Lakeway Circle, Paris, TN 38242

Shelbyville: 1304 Railroad Avenue, Shelbyville, TN 37162-0496

Union City: 314 Florida Street, Union City, TN 38261

Tennessee Technology Access Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Citizen's Plaza, 11th Floor

400 Deaderick Street

Nashville, TN 37248

Tel: (800) 732-5059 (In state.)

(615) 532-3122

(615) 741-4566 (TDD/TTY)

(615) 532-4685 (Fax)

www.state.tn.us/humanserv/ttap_index.htm

E-mail: tn.ttap@state.tn.us

Kevin Wright, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To maintain a statewide program of technology-related assistance that is timely, comprehensive and consumer driven to ensure that all Tennesseans with disabilities have the information, services and devices that they need to make choices about where and how they spend their time as independently as possible.

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Provides training, evaluation, minority outreach and advocacy services through its regional assistive technology centers.

Financial Assistance: Provides information about the funding of devices and services. Provides funding to five regional assistive technology centers across Tennessee.

Information and Referral: Provides Tennesseans who have disabilities with comprehensive information related to assistive technology.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

VITAL (Visually Impaired Training and Learning) Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

1302 South Willow Street

P.O. Box 3467

Chattanooga, TN 37404

Tel: (423) 624-0025

(423) 624-1226 (Fax)

E-mail: vital4blind@comcast.net

Susan Rouse, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide professional rehabilitation services to blind and visually impaired individuals.

Established: 1987.

County/District where located: Hamilton County.

Geographic area served: Southeast Tennessee, Northwest Georgia, Northeast Alabama.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired individuals.

Ages served: 0 to 100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: All training areas are fully accessible.

Budget: \$100,000.

Clients served annually: 125.

Staff: 4. Executive Director, Orientation & Mobility Specialist, Rehabilitation Teacher, Employment Specialist.

Fee structure: Sliding scale for private pay, vocational rehabilitation funding, worker's compensation funding, and contracts with school systems.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes low vision devices, independent living aids and appliances. Products for sale on site.

Counseling: Offers sight loss discussion groups, family program, and information and referral.

Employment: Assists in the placement of visually impaired individuals in jobs in the community.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in adapted living and communication skills.

West Tennessee Special Technology Access Resource Center (the STAR Center)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

60 Lynoak Cove

Jackson, TN 38305

Tel: (731) 668-3888 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(731) 668-9664 (TDD/TTY)

(731) 668-1666 (Fax)

www.starcenter.tn.org

E-mail: information@starcenter.tn.org

Margaret Doumitt, CEO, mdoumitt@starcenter.tn.org

Chuck Doumitt, Program Director,

cdoumitt@starcenter.tn.org

Deena D. Smith, Orientation and Mobility Specialist,

dsmith@starcenter.tn.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To function as a model demonstration, resource and training center dedicated to ensuring that all individuals with disabilities or other special needs maximize their potential for independence and achieve their personal goals of employment, effective learning and independent living through assistive technology, assistive aids and support services.

Established: 1988.

County/District where located: Madison County.

Geographic area served: West Tennessee.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind with documentation.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, push plate electronic doors, elevator, braille signage.

Publications: Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessments in orientation and mobility, low vision, and independent living.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluations and training in the use of low vision devices for seniors.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training for seniors.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation training for seniors.

WYPL-FM

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

3030 Poplar Avenue

Memphis, TN 38111-3527

Tel: (901) 415-2752

www.memphis.lib.tn.us/wypl/wyptop.htm

E-mail: wypl@memphis.lib.tn.us

Steven T. Terry, Sr., Station Manager,

terrys@memphis.lib.tn.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Shelby County.

Geographic area served: 100-mile radius of Memphis, TN.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Budget: \$500,000+.

Staff: 7. Station Manager, Production Manager, Engineer, Producer/Announcers, Receptionist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, books and airs roundtable book discussions. Publications include the Commercial Appeal, USA Today, other local newspapers.

Texas

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Texas Department of Assistive and
Rehabilitative Services: Division for the
Blind

(800) 252-5204

Texas State Unit on Aging

(800) 252-9240

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Texas Department of Assistive and
Rehabilitative Services, Division for Early
Childhood Intervention Services

(800) 250-2246

Educational Services

Texas Education Agency

(800) 252-9668

Instructional Materials Center

Texas Education Agency

(800) 252-9668

Rehabilitation Services

Texas Department of Assistive and
Rehabilitative Services: Criss Cole
Rehabilitation Center

(800) 252-5204

Texas Department of Assistive and
Rehabilitative Services: Division for the
Blind

(800) 252-5204

School for the Blind

Texas School for the Blind and Visually
Impaired

(800) 872-5273

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Austin Junior Women's Federation

Reading & Radio Resource

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Texas Unit

Recording Library for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped

Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Talking
Book Program

Visual Aid Volunteers

Dog Guide Schools

Guide Dogs of Texas

Educational Agencies

Developmental Education Birth through Three (DEBT
Program)

Information/Referral Centers

Center for Computer Assistance to the Disabled: A
Program of United Cerebral Palsy of Dallas

Lighthouse of Houston

Prevent Blindness Texas: San Antonio Branch

Prevent Blindness Texas: West Texas Branch

Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Talking
Book Program

Libraries

Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Talking
Book Program (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Dallas Services

Lighthouse of Houston

Lions Low Vision Center of Texas

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center:
 Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco Blind
 Rehabilitation Center

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Texas Ophthalmological Association
 Texas Optometric Association

National Organizations

American Foundation for the Blind: National Center on
 Age-Related Vision Loss

Postsecondary Institutions

Stephen F. Austin State University: Department of
 Human Services
 Texas Tech University: Virginia Murray Sowell Center
 for Research and Education in Visual Impairment

Radio Reading Stations

KUT 90.5 FM
 Reading & Radio Resource
 Taping for the Blind Radio

American Foundation for the Blind: National Center on Age-Related Vision Loss (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Austin Junior Women's Federation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1406 Wilshire Boulevard
 Austin, TX 78722
 Tel: (512) 206-0157
 (512) 451-6945 (Fax)

Margarine G. Beaman, Project Chair,
 oleo50@hotmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help people who are blind and visually
 impaired to be independent while shopping, working,
 going to school, traveling and eating.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Nationwide.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, private
 donations.

Staff: All volunteers.

Fee structure: Items provided at cost.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Sells various braille and raised
 signage items. Products for sale on site and via
 telephone order.

Rehabilitation Agencies

Beacon Lighthouse
 Center for Computer Assistance to the Disabled: A
 Program of United Cerebral Palsy of Dallas
 Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind
 El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind
 Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths
 and Adults: South Central Region Office
 Horizon Industries: East Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
 Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth
 Lighthouse of Houston
 San Antonio Lighthouse
 South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
 Travis Association for the Blind
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco Blind
 Rehabilitation Center
 West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

State Technology Programs

Texas Assistive Technology Project

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces
 materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large
 print). **Types of content:** Braille and raised restroom
 signs, ATM and vending signs, room number signs and
 similar signage. Brochures, menus, banks statements,
 directories.

Counseling: Offers course on self-development and
 body language.

Beacon Lighthouse

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

300 Seventh Street
 Wichita Falls, TX 76301
 Tel: (940) 767-0888
 (940) 767-0893 (Fax)

Buddy Edgemon, President
 Carolyn Stouard, Executive Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the economic and personal
 independence of people who are blind or visually
 impaired, primarily through employment in the
 manufacturing of goods and services.

Established: 1973.

County/District where located: Wichita County.

Geographic area served: North Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness. For full-time
 employment: 18 years of age. For part-time
 employment: 16 years.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Workshop sales.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers job opportunities in manufacturing plant.

Center for Computer Assistance to the Disabled: A Program of United Cerebral Palsy of Dallas

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Rehabilitation agency

1950 Stemmons Freeway

Suite 2019

Dallas, TX 75207

Tel: (214) 800-2223

(214) 800-2224 (Fax)

www.c-cad.org/

E-mail: info@c-cad.org

Myra Armstrong, Assistive Technology Evaluation

Specialist, myra@c-cad.org

Susan Black, Special Projects Coordinator and

Community Liaison, (214) 800-2235, susan@c-cad.org

Debi Jobin, Director of Assistive Technology Services,

(214) 800-2229, debi@c-cad.org

Carol Nicks, Manager of Training, (214) 800-2236,

carol@c-cad.org

Martha Surratt, Administrative Coordinator, (214)

800-2228, martha@c-cad.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the quality of life of individuals with disabilities through the use of assistive technology tools, training, consultation, effective accommodations, and community awareness and education.

Established: 1982.

County/District where located: Dallas County.

Geographic area served: North Texas Region, primarily the Dallas Metroplex and surrounding area, including Fort Worth, Arlington and Denton.

Eligibility requirements: Programs open to persons of all ages with all degrees and types of disabilities needing assistance from technology to access computers or gain increased independence.

Ages served: 3 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is completely accessible.

Accessible to public transportation.

Clients served annually: 100+.

Staff: 3 full-time and 8 part-time employees. All instructors are approved by the Texas Workforce Commission. Evaluation team are all educators with masters degrees, including Assistive Technology

Resource Specialists, Assistive Technology Specialist and an Occupational Therapist, with years of experience working with persons with all types and degrees of disabilities.

Fee structure: Evaluations: \$100/hour; Small Group Training: \$150 to \$600 per course, depending on subject matter; One-on-one and off-site training available for \$50/one-on-one and \$60/off-site. Scholarships and sliding scale may be available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Computer Training, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Conducts interviews, observations, and screenings to help each client assess needs and choose the appropriate adaptive hardware or software.

Includes hand and finger coordination, vision and hearing abilities, memory and learning abilities, computer and keyboard skills, and appropriate instructional levels. Provides private evaluations for senior citizens with vision impairment and/or other disabilities.

Computer Training: Offers small group and one-on-one instruction on computers, adaptive access hardware and software applications for children through seniors. Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, keyboarding, voice recognition software.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers workshops, training, and information and referral for persons with disabilities, parents, caregivers and professionals who work with them, including teachers, special education personnel, therapists, rehabilitation professionals, librarians, and others.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals by phone or e-mail.

Low Vision: Conducts evaluations for closed-circuit televisions and other adaptive computer access hardware and software technology.

Parent Assistance: Provides information and referrals for parents. Consultations and training in the application and use of assistive technology.

Professional Training: Offers workshops, seminars, demonstrations and one-on-one instruction for professionals. Offers courses and/or workshops for librarians who want to learn how to use assistive technology devices or software for the visually impaired.

AFFILIATE OFFICES

Dallas: United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Dallas, 8802 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75235

Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4245 Office Parkway

Dallas, TX 75204

Tel: (214) 821-2375

(800) 735-2989 (TDD/TTY)

(214) 824-4612 (Fax)

www.dallaslighthouse.org

E-mail: betsy@dallaslighthouse.org

Michael H. Orfinik, President, Administration,

morfinik@dallaslighthouse.org

Kenneth Boyles, Vice President, Finance,

kboyles@dallaslighthouse.org

William R. Sumerau, Vice President of Operations,

Industrial, sumeraur@dallaslighthouse.org

Betsy Thorne, Director of Sales,

bthorne@dallaslighthouse.org

Steven J. Vanderpoel, Human Resources,

Rehabilitation, vanderpoels@dallaslighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities for people with visual disabilities to achieve personal, social and economic independence.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Dallas County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro and Rockwall Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Totally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind, multiply disabled blind, or severely visually impaired persons. Rehabilitation clients should be referred by Texas Commission for the Blind or Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Information and Referral: Offers information and referral services for seniors.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides extended rehabilitation training, employment readiness training, personal/social adjustment training, Kurzweil Reader Instruction, school-to-work transition training. Provides training in independent living for seniors.

Dallas Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

4242 Office Parkway

Dallas, TX 75204

Tel: (214) 828-9900

(214) 828-9901 (Fax)

www.dallasservices.org/

E-mail: dallasservices@earthlink.net

Jim Gibson, Executive Director,

jim_gibson@earthlink.net

Stephanie S. Helm Fleming, Optometrist, Low Vision Clinic

Victoria Henderson, Operations Manager, Early

Childhood Intervention, (214) 828-9890, (214)

828-9800 (Fax)

Karen Keener, Director, Dallas Day School

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide comprehensive family-focused services to families who have a child with developmental delays, including visual impairment and to provide comprehensive low vision care and training.

Established: 1950.

County/District where located: Dallas County.

Geographic area served: Dallas, Tarrant, and surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers low vision exams and screens for developmental delays.

Counseling: Offers parent and other counseling, financial assistance, case management, family-focused early childhood intervention, individual and group counseling, and referrals.

Early Intervention: Offers birth-to-age-5 program for children with disabilities and developmental delays.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment, functional vision exams, medical evaluations, low vision training.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Offers low vision evaluations and prescription of devices and training for seniors.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent workshops.

Preschool: Offers home- and center-based programs for developmentally delayed, including visually handicapped, children, birth to 5 years. Inclusive day care facility.

Professional Training: Offers professional development on working with preschool aged visually impaired children.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in all developmental areas, consultant services to other specialized programs, and inclusive settings. Provides training in the use of low vision devices.

Developmental Education Birth through Three (DEBT Program)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

1628 19th Street

Lubbock, TX 79401

Tel: (806) 766-1172

(806) 766-1286 (Fax)

www.lubbockisd.org

Laura D. Kender, Director, lkender@lubbockisd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Lubbock County.

Geographic area served: Lubbock Independent School District. Expanded program serving 12-county rural areas in western Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Developmentally delayed children aged 0-3 years.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers parent counseling, financial assistance, skill-building opportunities for parents, and service coordination.

Early Intervention: Provides adaptive equipment, medical evaluations, nutrition services, and other services necessary to enable a child to benefit from the other early intervention services.

Education Services: Provides instruction in developmental areas. Offers home-based activities and consultant services for visually impaired, multihandicapped, and other disabled children, 0-3 years.

El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

200 Washington Street

El Paso, TX 79905

Tel: (915) 532-4495

(915) 532-6338 (Fax)

www.lighthouse-el Paso.com

Harry Tyler, Director, htyler@elp.rr.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer training, resources, and services which provide the blind and visually impaired with access to the same opportunities and quality of life available to everyone around them.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Identifies and evaluates existing skills and areas of potential growth for those ready to re-enter or enter the workforce.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Counseling: Helps visually impaired clients achieve a maximum level of social and familial functioning, utilizing the various support agencies and programs available in the community.

Employment: Provides both technical and cognitive evaluation services to help clients, employers, and government agencies determine needs for special training and an individual's potential for future gainful employment. Offers supported employment services to individuals who are blind or have severe visual impairments. Technological Training and Evaluation Unit, after evaluation for identification of the best equipment for an individual, trains for his or her needs, allowing the visually impaired computer user to be independent and competitive with co-workers on the job.

Low Vision: Offers low vision exams 5 days per week. Prescribes optical aids for those who would otherwise be unable to afford them.

Reading Services: Broadcasts edited and recorded newspaper articles, advertisements and other items of interest in both English and Spanish. Recordings are transmitted directly to KTEP-FM Radio at the University of Texas at El Paso. KTEP broadcasts the reading service to the special receivers 7 days a week, 19 hours a day.

Rehabilitation: Offers an independent living skills program for the newly blind and elderly blind, concentrating on training in the areas of personal management, sensory development, indoor mobility, homemaking skills, and leisure time activities.

Guide Dogs of Texas

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

11825 West Avenue

Suite 104

San Antonio, TX 78216

Tel: (800) 831-9231

(210) 366-4081

(210) 266-4080 (Fax)

www.guidedogsoftexas.org

Mike Mason, Executive Director,
mikemason@guidedogsoftexas.org
Michelle Pelletier, Puppy Program,
michelle@guidedogsoftexas.org
Phil Stanley, General Information,
phil@guidedogsoftexas.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide guide dogs to Texans who are visually impaired.

Established: 1989.

Fee structure: \$1.00.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Raises, trains, and provides dogs to Texans who are visually impaired.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: South Central Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4230 LBJ Freeway, LB#31
Suite 340

Dallas, TX 75244

Tel: (972) 490-9677

(972) 490-6042 (Fax)

www.hknc.org/

E-mail: ccfutbol@aol.com

C.C. Davis, Regional Representative, ccfutbol@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Dallas County.

Geographic area served: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally deaf and blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Residential Facilities: Available at New York Center.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to

Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Horizon Industries: East Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

500 North Bois D'Arc

Tyler, TX 75702

Tel: (888) 595-3444

(903) 595-3444

(903) 595-3447 (Fax)

www.horizonind.com

J. Gordon Bryson, President, gbryson@horizonind.com

Michael G. Hubbard, Vice President, Finance and Administration

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation and employment to persons who are blind and visually impaired in order for them to lead independent, productive lives.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Smith County.

Geographic area served: 35 counties of Eastern Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory for adults and multiply disabled persons.

Staff: 19 full-time.

Fee structure: Set by Texas Commission for the Blind.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessments and evaluations.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems.

Counseling: Offers outside employee assistance service for counseling.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, job retraining, sheltered workshops. Provides consultation to other agencies on other employment services. Sells products produced in workshops by phone or online (industrial wipes, ID badges, pressboard binders).

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Recreation: Beep baseball.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management skills and use of video magnifier.

KUT 90.5 FM

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

Communications Building B

2504 Whitis

Austin, TX 78705

Tel: (512) 471-1631

www.kut.org

E-mail: kut@kut.org

John Hanson, Administrative Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: 42-mile radius from Austin, 87-mile radius from central Texas.

Hours of operation: Sun. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts news programs and selections from newspapers and magazines (The New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post, Chicago Sun Times, other major and local newspapers).

Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

912 West Broadway

Fort Worth, TX 76104

Tel: (817) 332-3341

(817) 332-3456 (Fax)

www.lighthousefw.org

E-mail: rehab@lighthousefw.org

Robert W. Mosteller, President and CEO,

bob@lighthousefw.org

Kent Bowers, Orientation and Mobility Instructor

Wayne Pound, Community/Rehabilitation Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to assist legally and totally blind individuals to achieve their highest level of personal and economic self-sufficiency consistent with their specific skills, general abilities, and interests.

Established: 1935.

County/District where located: Tarrant County.

Geographic area served: North Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally or totally blind.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, accessible restrooms.

Funded by: Endowments, private donations, workshop sales.

Clients served annually: 1100.

Staff: 17.

Publications: Agency brochure, quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Information and Referral to older persons.

Counseling: Provides information, guidance and intervention regarding concerns and issues with Social Security Administration.

Employment: Provides work adjustment training, supported employment, job development.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to other resources to visually impaired persons and their families. Provides information packet of area services to elderly blind who inquire about services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Lighthouse of Houston

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

3602 West Dallas Avenue

Houston, TX 77219-0435

Tel: (713) 527-9561

(713) 284-8451 (Fax)

www.houstonlighthouse.org

Gibson M. DuTerroil, President,

gduterroil@houstonlighthouse.org

Jennifer Blando, Case Manager, (713) 284-8422,

jblando@houstonlighthouse.org

Randall May, Manager, O&M and Low Vision Clinic,

rmay@houstonlighthouse.org

Mary McKoy, Certified Therapeutic Recreation

Specialist, mmckoy@houstonlighthouse.org

Shelagh K. Moran, Vice President, COO, (713) 284-8490,

(713) 284-8468 (Fax), smoran@houstonlighthouse.org

Ian Sangree, Technology Trainer,

isangree@houstonlighthouse.org

Kathryn Stewart, Certified Diabetes Educator,

kstewart@houstonlighthouse.org

Tiffany Till, Community Outreach Specialist,

ttill@houstonlighthouse.org

Chelean Zander, Vice President, Community Programs,

(713) 284-8494, (713) 284-8468 (Fax),

czander@houstonlighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities for the blind and visually impaired to appraise their interests, capabilities, and attitudes and to provide opportunities for rehabilitation through a variety of vocationally related activities.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Harris.

Geographic area served: Greater Houston area and Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Persons with visual impairments.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: All buildings are accessible.

Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Group homes for persons who are deaf-blind. Two apartment facilities for persons who can live independently. Temporary apartments for students and trainers.

Fee structure: Third-party payors, private pay, sliding scale. No one is denied service because of an inability to pay.

Publications: Annual report. Quarterly newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Employment, In-Home Services, Recreation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Sells adaptive aids such as talking clocks, braille watches, mobility canes, and hundreds of other items. Products are available at Reflections, The Lighthouse store, by telephone, or online at www.houstonlighthouse.org. Second Sight sells refurbished or gently used adaptive equipment.

Braille and Reading Instruction: ABE-GED, computer literacy, braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides comprehensive on-site and off-site consultation services.

Employment: Provides vocational assessments and training, and employment skills development. Offers instruction in medical transcription, word processing, clerical skills, and computer programming. Educates blind and visually impaired individuals to compete for employment in areas such as medical transcription, switchboard operation, customer service, and clerical support.

Health/Fitness: Operates an on-site fitness facility and offers swimming lessons.

Health/Medical: Offers diabetic education service.

In-Home Services: Home visitor program links individuals with volunteers to assist with reading the mail, transportation to the doctor or grocery store.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral to other resources. Offers specialized programs that combine clinical expertise with education to inform individuals about the causes of and treatment for vision loss.

Library: Maintains a library of descriptive and audio videos.

Low Vision: Maintains a full service clinic. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent-infant program.

Professional Training: Offers internships in rehabilitation, orientation and mobility, therapeutic recreation.

Recreation: Operates the Summer Camp, the School's Out Program, Parent-Infant Classes, and the annual Beeping Easter Egg Hunt to provide opportunities for blind and visually impaired children and their families to interact and have fun while learning new skills.

Offers art and cooking classes, monthly tandem bike rides, field trips and other fun activities. Provides recreation groups for the elderly.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management and independent living skills. Provides residential services for deaf-blind adults. Provides independent living options and skills training for those with vision loss, and 24-hour assistance and skills training for the deaf-blind and multihandicapped.

Transportation: Licensed Adult Day Health Care Program at two locations offer transportation M-F to enrolled clients to participate in art, exercise, cooking, and games classes and monthly fieldtrips. Registered Nurse on-site provides health screening and monitoring.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Houston: Community Services Center Southwest, 8640 Wednesbury Lane, Houston, TX 77074

Lions Low Vision Center of Texas

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

8403 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229

Tel: (210) 567-8600

(210) 567-8609 (Fax)

www.uthscsa.edu/eye/lowvision.html

E-mail: foxsm@uthscsa.edu

Sandra Fox, Optometrist, foxsm@uthscsa.edu

Melva Perez, Occupational Therapist,
perez2m@uthscsa.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide quality low vision rehabilitation services to persons with vision loss utilizing a multidisciplinary approach; to conduct research pertaining to innovative low vision rehabilitation methods and low vision devices as well as research related to ocular disease; to deliver high quality education to individuals, our community and healthcare professionals.

Established: 2003.

County/District where located: Bexar County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Prefers referral from ophthalmologist, optometrist or agency.

Hours of operation: Mon., Tues., Thurs.: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM; Wed., Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Free visitor parking near building, patient drop-off in front of entrance.

Staff: 3. Low vision optometrist, occupational therapist, office manager.

Additional information: The Center is a community partnership among the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Medicine/Department of Ophthalmology, the School of Allied Health Sciences/Department of Occupational Therapy and the Lions Clubs International.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Financial Assistance, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Offers low vision evaluations as well as occupational therapy assessment. Reading, driving and ability to perform activities of daily living will be assessed by an occupational therapist.

Financial Assistance: Provides funds to assist in purchasing low vision devices. Also loans low vision devices to clients.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices. Evaluates low vision devices, rehabilitation services for reading, driving and activities of daily living.

Rehabilitation: Offers training in the use of low vision devices, reading, driving, and activities of daily living.

Prevent Blindness Texas: San Antonio Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

2929 Mossrock
Suite 203

San Antonio, TX 78230

Tel: (888) 897-4488

(210) 340-1007

(210) 240-4790 (Fax)

E-mail: pbtsa@ev1.net

Libby Bentley, Executive Director

Kirsten Geisbush, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness, to preserve sight and to enhance and extend the quality of vision life for all Texans.

Established: 1964.

County/District where located: Bexar County.

Geographic area served: 43 counties in central and south Texas.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 12,000 - 14,000.

Staff: 2 full-time, 1 part-time. Additional contract screeners hired when grants are awarded for the positions.

Fee structure: No fee for screenings.

Publications: Various brochures on eye diseases and eye care, eye health and eye safety.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Health/Medical to older persons.

Assessment: Screening results evaluated.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers free vision screenings for children and adults.

Early Intervention: Offers free vision screenings for acuity, amblyopia, and strabismus.

Health/Medical: Offers acuity and glaucoma screening for the elderly. Provides free eye care, health and safety information.

Information and Referral: Provides free information on eye care, health, and safety. Referrals to other agencies and eye care professionals.

Professional Training: Offers certification program to conduct screenings.

Prevent Blindness Texas: West Texas Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

6044 Gateway Boulevard East
Suite 220

El Paso, TX 79905-2016

Tel: (888) 987-4448 (Main office in Houston.)

(915) 775-1200

(915) 779-1201 (Fax)

www.preventblindness.org/tx

E-mail: pbfarwesttx@aol.com

Kathryn M. Becker, Branch Executive Director, (915)
775-1201 (Fax), pbfarwesttx@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness, preserve sight and enhance the quality of life for all Texans.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: El Paso County.

Geographic area served: West Texas, with emphasis on rural areas.

Eligibility requirements: Varies by program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM or by appointment.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, private donations, United Way.

Budget: \$100,000.

Clients served annually: 25,000.

Staff: 1.5 full-time employees. 1 full-time ED, 1 part-time program director and 2 temporary part-time vision screeners.

Fee structure: No fee for screenings.

Publications: Pamphlets and brochures on various vision problems.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment to older persons.

Assessment: Performs screenings for seniors to determine problems with visual field or visual acuity.

Early Intervention: Photoscreening on pre-verbal, non-verbal and special needs. Referral as needed.

Education Services: Training available in vision screening certification.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals as necessary to appropriate vision specialist.

Preschool: Screenings provided.

Professional Training: Offers certification for adult/child vision screening and photoscreener.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Houston: 3211 West Dallas, Houston, TX 77019

Reading & Radio Resource

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Radio reading station

2007 Randall

Dallas, TX 75201

Tel: (800) 871-7668

(214) 871-7668

(214) 871-7669 (Fax)

www.readingresource.org

E-mail: reading@readingresource.org

Betty Hersey, Executive Director,

betty@readingresource.org

Nancy Adrian, Volunteer Coordinator,

nancy@readingresource.org

Steve Cumming, Station Manager,

radio@readingresource.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide reading alternatives through conversion of the printed word into audible form and made available to anyone with visual, physical or learning impairments through recorded books and/or a radio reading service.

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Dallas County.

Geographic area served: Recorded Books Program: nationwide. Radio Reading Service: 70-mile radius from Dallas.

Eligibility requirements: Anyone who has a visual, physical and/or learning disabilities.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Office Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM. Open to volunteers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Radio programming 7 days a week, 24 hours each day.

Accessibility: Open to volunteers only. Wheelchair accessible.

Budget: \$450,000.

Clients served annually: 70,000 students; 5,000 radio listeners.

Staff: 6.

Fee structure: Radio Reading: no fee. Adult recorded books: shipping and handling. Educational institutions: per cassette fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats

(cassette/tape). **Types of content:** State-adopted textbooks, grades 1-12; students' enrichment literature; adult requests: religion, self-help, inspiration, history, others.

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers, magazines, special interest programming, full-length novels. Publications include Dallas Morning News, Ft. Worth Star Telegram, USA Today, Christian Science Monitor.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Texas Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer

1314 West 45th Street

Austin, TX 78756

Tel: (877) 246-7321 (To place book orders, call

1-800-221-4792)

(512) 323-9390

(512) 323-9399 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

Lil Serafine, Executive Director, lil@rfbdtxas.org

Amanda DeWitt, Outreach Director,

amanda@rfbdtxas.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks but membership is required in order to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students

become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-8:00 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: A mix of staff and volunteers.

Fee structure: Please refer to www.rfbd.org.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** School textbooks K-college.

Library: RFB&D has more than 98,000 titles in its CV Starr Learning Through Listening® Library.

Recording Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

2012 W. Cuthbert Street

Midland, TX 79701

Tel: (432) 682-2731

(432) 682-2731 (Fax)

www.libraryblind.com

E-mail: book4blind@aol.com

Sandy Davis, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide audio recordings of books to the Texas State Library Talking Book Program and other recordings on an individual basis.

Established: 1963.

County/District where located: Midland county.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or physically disabled.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 1 full time and 2 part-time. One Director and two production/volunteer coordinators.

Fee structure: No fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products to older persons.

Assistive Products: Provides audio books and other recordings for elderly people.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Provides audio recordings of books for Texas State Library Talking Book Program, plus other recordings on an individual basis.

San Antonio Lighthouse

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2305 Roosevelt Avenue

San Antonio, TX 78210

Tel: (800) 362-4335

(210) 533-5195 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(210) 533-4230 (Fax)

www.salighthouse.org

E-mail: donations@salighthouse.org

Bob R. Plunkett, President/CEO, (210) 533-4676 (Fax),

bob@salighthouse.org

Vince Boyd, Training, vince@salighthouse.org

Mike Emley, Technology Evaluation Training Unit,

Diana Gutierrez, Information & Referral,

diana@salighthouse.org

Cindy Miller, VP, Rehabilitation,

cindy@salighthouse.org

John A. Mueth, Community Relations/Development

Manager, john@salighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual independence by providing rehabilitation and employment services to blind and visually impaired persons.

Established: 1933.

County/District where located: Bexar County.

Geographic area served: San Antonio, Texas, and surrounding area.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, disabled.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: ADA accessible.

Clients served annually: 2,100.

Staff: Technology and computer specialists, training professionals, and counselors.

Fee structure: Based upon state rates.

Additional information: Comprehensive services are individualized to needs of each participant.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Information and Referral, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Provides vocational/career guidance and technology assessments.

Assistive Products: Low vision products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers adult braille instruction.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output

systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, spreadsheet software.

Counseling: Offers counseling services.

Employment: Offers career guidance, skills assessment, personal and social adjustment, vocational adjustment, occupational skill development, on-the-job training, job retention, job retraining, job readiness, employment assistance, extended employment, service contracts, supported employment, and community job placement.

Financial Assistance: Offers scholarships.

Information and Referral: Provides information about Lighthouse services and identifies and networks with community resources.

Library: Maintains a small library of books on tape, descriptive videos, braille books, and large-print books.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers Adaptive Technology for Trainers and Train the Caregiver programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in personal management, home management and communication skills. Provides training in independent living skills for seniors.

Support Groups: Has peer/support groups for seniors.

South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4421 Agnes Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78405

Tel: (361) 883-6553

(361) 883-1041 (Fax)

www.stlighthouse.org

E-mail: eileenb@sotxlighthouse.org

Regis Barber, President/CEO,
regisb@sotxlighthouse.org

Eileen Butler, Director, Human Resources & External Affairs, eileenb@sotxlighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment opportunities and rehabilitation training for people who are blind so that they may be independent and improve their quality of life.

Established: 1964.

County/District where located: Nueces County.

Geographic area served: South Texas coastal area, from Victoria to Corpus Christi to the Texas-Mexico border.

Additional information: Employment opportunities in administration, retail and manufacturing; rehabilitation training includes orientation and mobility training, adaptive technology/computer

(including basic keyboarding, Windows, Zoomtext, JAWS, MSWord, etc.) classes, and braille classes.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers on-the-job training (for production assemblers) and sheltered workshop employment. Manufactures three-ring binders, corrugated mail trays, and candles. Employment opportunities are offered in administration and retail services (experience required; contact for details).

Stephen F. Austin State University: Department of Human Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

SFA Station, Box 13019
Nacogdoches, TX 75962

Tel: (936) 468-2906

(936) 468-1342 (Fax)

www.sfasu.edu/hs/

Robert Bryant, Orientation and Mobility Specialist,
bbryant@sfasu.edu

William Bryan, Visually Handicapped, Dual Competency, bbryan@sfasu.edu

Dixie Mercer, Visually Handicapped,
dmercer@sfasu.edu

Frankie Swift, Visually Impaired Program,
fswift@sfasu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Nacogdoches County.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Undergraduate programs for teachers of the visually impaired, orientation and mobility specialists, dual competency teachers of the visually impaired/orientation and mobility. Graduate program in teacher of the visually impaired and orientation and mobility. Offers distance education certification program in teacher of the visually impaired and orientation and mobility.

Taping for the Blind Radio

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

3935 Essex Lane
Houston, TX 77027

Tel: (713) 622-2767

www.hal-pc.org/~taping/tfb_htbr1.htm

E-mail: taping@hal-pc.org

Cynthia Fanzetti, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Harris County.

Geographic area served: 33 counties in southeastern Texas.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from magazines and books. Newspapers read include the Houston Chronicle and the Wall Street Journal.

Texas Assistive Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ State technology program**

Texas Center for Disability Studies

University of Texas at Austin

4030 West Braker Lane

Building 1, Suite 180

Austin, TX 78759

Tel: (800) 828-7839 (In state.)

(512) 471-7621

(512) 471-1844 (TDD/TTY)

(512) 471-1844 (Fax)

www.techaccess.edb.utexas.edu

Susanne Elrod, Director, s.elrod@mail.utexas.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase access to assistive technology that gives people with disabilities more control over their immediate environments and enhanced ability to function independently.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Offers assistance to policymakers at all levels of the service delivery system to assure that technology access is incorporated into public policies for education, employment, community services and supports, health care and telecommunications, as required by laws like the ADA and IDEA.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides information and advice to individuals and organizations about a wide range of assistive technology issues. Offers training and technical assistance to AT professionals and others who help people with disabilities access and use technology.

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services: Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center (CCRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ State rehabilitation services**

4800 North Lamar

Austin, TX 78756

Tel: (800) 252-5204

(512) 377-0300

(512) 377-0432 (Fax)

www.dars.state.tx.us/services/CrissCole.shtml

E-mail: CCRC.Admissions@dars.state.tx.us

Ed Kunz, Center Director, CCRC,

Ed.Kunz@dars.state.tx.us

Deanna Graham, Manager, Training Services, (512)

377-0304, Deana.Graham@dars.state.tx.us

Cynthia Guilbeau, Manager, Outreach and Community Training, (512) 377-0347,

Cynthia.Guilbeau@dars.state.tx.us

Andrea Moen, Admissions Team Leader, (512)

377-0334, (512) 337-0432 (Fax),

CCRC.Admissions@dars.state.tx.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with consumers to empower them to achieve their employment and independent living goals. To provide assessment, training and related services in a residential/community setting.

Established: 1971.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Must be blind (statutory definition), referred by a vocational rehabilitation counselor, focused on employment, and have a permanent residence. In addition, eligibility decisions are based on a consumer's demonstrated willingness and ability to participate and demonstrate progress in CCRC classes, participate in recommended non-visual training, transfer skills learned from one setting to another, attend scheduled classes (including stamina), participate and benefit from group instruction, apply learned skills, live cooperatively in an adult residential setting, care for daily self-help needs independently or with personal assistance services, move about independently or with personal assistance services, and take responsibility for own behavior.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: ADA compliant. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dormitories available for adult training participants.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment in areas of basic blindness skills.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides basic literacy skills training across braille and other areas.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides overviews, tours, training on site for professionals in rehabilitation and education regarding services and techniques for working with blind adults. Serves as consultant to provide training to nursing homes and other care facilities upon request.

Counseling: CCRC vocational rehabilitation counselors work in partnership with consumers to create an individualized center training plan. At regular intervals in the training period, the consumer and CCRC counselor participate in program reviews to assure that training is on track and the consumer is making progress towards stated goals. Ancillary service coordinated by CCRC counselors include vocational/psychological and individualized counseling services.

Education Services: Upon completion of basic blindness skills, ESL and GED instruction are available for CCRC consumers who can benefit from this service. In addition, methodology training and college preparation is available for consumers interested in pursuing post-secondary education.

Employment: Provides career guidance services in areas of vocational exploration, job seeking skills, and community work experience.

Health/Medical: Provides training health education, first aid, and diabetes life management.

Low Vision: Consumers at CCRC with an acuity of light perception or better have the opportunity to meet with the low vision coordinator to evaluate and discuss their low vision needs and the services offered by the Low Vision Department.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Provides immersion training, workshops, seminars to newly hired staff and agency staff of the Division for Blind Services as well as to staff of other agencies and the public related to issues of blindness.

Recreation: Provides recreation training and activities for students, including PC classes, pottery, bowling, swimming, hiking, ROPES courses, self-defense classes, rock climbing, and tubing.

Rehabilitation: Consumers who participate in CCRC services receive assessments (approximately four weeks) and training services using non-visual techniques (blindfold) to maximize immersion in the structured discovery approach to learning basic blindness skills. Training program consists of the following: Basic blindness skills (includes assessment/training in the following areas: travel skills, braille, daily living skills, communication skills, keyboarding, career guidance, industrial arts, and seminars); Advanced training (training in technology and career guidance after consumers master their basic blindness skills and meet course prerequisites);

In-home rehabilitative (available via field staff). Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services: Division for Early Childhood Intervention Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

4900 North Lamar Boulevard
Austin, TX 78751

Tel: (800) 250-2246

(512) 424-6754

(512) 424-6770 (TDD/TTY)

(512) 424-6833 (Fax)

www.eci.state.tx.us

Mary Beth O'Hanlon, Assistant Commissioner, (512) 424-6751, (512) 424-6749 (Fax),
marybeth.o'hanlon@dars.state.tx.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure that families with young children with developmental delays will have the resources and support they need to reach their goals.

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Children under age 3 with a developmental delay or a medically diagnosed condition known to lead to delay.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Varies with local program.

Accessibility: Services provided off-site.

Fee structure: Sliding fee scale.

Publications: Newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Offers assessments for developmental delays of children from birth to age three. Assessment information is used to plan services.

Counseling: Provides counseling in accordance with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Texas's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Health/Medical: Provides health evaluations and services accordance with IDEA, Part C.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Parent Assistance: Offers counseling and other support for parents.

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services: Division for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

4800 North Lamar Boulevard
Suite 310

Austin, TX 78756-3178

Tel: (800) 252-5204 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(512) 377-0500 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(512) 377-0500 (TDD/TTY)

(512) 377-0551 (Fax)

www.dars.state.tx.us

Ed Kunz, Director, Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center,
Ed.Kunz@dars.state.tx.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with Texans who are blind or visually impaired to reach their goals.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

Residential Facilities: Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center offers residential services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dormitories for adults, elderly, multiply haandicapped.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment of specific adaptive technology needs of blind or visually impaired clients for classroom or workplace.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Counseling: Offers vocational rehabilitation counseling, psychiatric evaluation, psychological testing. Also offers individual, group, and family/parent counseling.

Education Services: Offers programs for adult GED, college prep, English as a second language, continuing education. Accepts all multiply disabled students.

Employment: Offers evaluation, prevocational and vocational training, placement in job, vending stand programs, business enterprise program, follow-up.

Health/Medical: Contracts for diagnostic, medical, and surgical treatment.

Housing Services: Works with consumers to access public housing resources.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training

Parent Assistance: Provides assistance to families in coordinating services to blind or visually impaired children.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation counseling, social work, special education teaching, nursing, general rehabilitation. Conducts regular in-service training.

Recreation: Offers recreation and socialization services provided as part of home-based independent living programs.

Rehabilitation: Offers adaptive independent living rehabilitation and vocational rehabilitation program. Provides training in home management, personal management, and communications skills. Provides home-based independent living skills training for elderly and other populations.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Austin: Austin, 7517 Cameron Road, Suite 120, Austin, TX 78752

Corpus Christi: Corpus Christi, 410 South Padre Island Drive, Suite 103, Corpus Christi, TX 78405

Dallas: West Dallas Local Office, 1555 West Mockingbird Lane, Suite 219, Dallas, TX 75235

El Paso: El Paso, 1314 Lomaland Drive, El Paso, TX 79935

Fort Worth: Fort Worth, 4200 South Freeway, Suite 307, Town Center Tower, Fort Worth, TX 76115-1404

Harlingen: Harlingen, 1812 West Jefferson, Harlingen, TX 78550

Houston: Houston, Heights Medical Tower, Suite 407, 427 West 20th, Houston, TX 77008

Houston: Southeast, 10060 Fuqua, Houston, TX 77089

Lubbock: Lubbock, 5121 69th Street, Suite A5, Corporate Center, Lubbock, TX 79424

San Antonio: San Antonio, Trinity Building, 4204 Woodcock Drive, Suite 274, San Antonio, TX 78228

Tyler: Tyler, 1121 East Southeast Loop, 323 Building 1 - Woodgate Office Park, Suite 106, Tyler, TX 75701-9638

Waco: Waco, Raleigh Building, 7th Floor, 801 Austin, Waco, TX 76701

DISTRICT OFFICES

Abilene: Abilene, 4601 S. 1st Street, Suite M, Abilene, TX 79605-1463

Amarillo: Amarillo, 7120 Interstate 40 West, Suite 100, Amarillo, TX 79106

Austin: Austin (University of Texas), Room 7, Academic Center, Austin, TX 78713

Beaumont: Beaumont, 6433 Concord Road, Beaumont, TX 77708

College Station: Bryan-College Station, 1115 Welsh Avenue, Suite A, College Station, TX 77840

Dallas: East Dallas, 5510 Abrams, Suite 115, Dallas, TX 75214

Laredo: Laredo, 313 West Village Boulevard, Suite 112, Laredo, TX 78041

Lubbock: Texas Tech, Center for the Visually Impaired, Texas Tech Library, Lubbock, TX 79409

Lufkin: Lufkin, 3201 South Medford, Suite 5, Lufkin, TX 75901

McAllen: McAllen, 801 Nolana Street, Suite 115, McAllen, TX 78504

Odessa: Odessa, 3016 Kermit Highway, Suite A, Odessa, TX 79764

San Angelo: San Angelo, State of Texas Services Center, 622 South Oakes, Suite B, San Angelo, TX 76903-7013

Texarkana: Texarkana, 410 Baylor Street, Suite C, Texarkana, TX 75501

Victoria: Victoria, Town Plaza Mall, 1502 East Airline, Suite 13, Victoria, TX 77901

Wichita Falls: Wichita Falls, Millennium Towers, 3709 Gregory Street, Suite 102, Wichita Falls, TX 76308

Texas Education Agency

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

■ State educational services

1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Tel: (800) 252-9668 (Parent information line)

(512) 463-9414

(512) 475-3540 (TDD/TTY)

(512) 473-9560 (Fax)

www.tea.state.tx.us

E-mail: sped@tea.tetn.net

Marty Murrell, Program Specialist, Division of Special Education Programs and Complaints, (512) 463-9362, (512) 463-9560 (Fax), Marty.Murrell@tea.state.tx.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To carry out the educational functions designated in federal and Texas law.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: State of Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Guidelines under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-B), and state law.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides accessible state-adopted textbooks to local districts through the TEA Textbook Division.

Education Services: Oversees services to students with disabilities in the public schools of Texas. Assists parents, educators, and state and local educational agencies in implementing the requirements of Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) regarding Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for children with disabilities through the Office of Special Education. Provides for the distribution of quota funded instructional materials through the Texas

School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Outreach Department. Provides state adopted textbooks in braille and large print to students with visual impairments.

Financial Assistance: Provides funding and technical assistance related to services for students with visual impairments through a network of 20 regional education service centers.

Texas Ophthalmological Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

401 West 15th Street, #825

Austin, TX 78701

Tel: (800) 776-9726

(512) 370-1504

(512) 370-1637 (Fax)

www.txeyenet.org

E-mail: toa@txeyenet.org

Mike Duncan, Executive Director, mike@txeyenet.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enhance the professional lives of Texas ophthalmologists through continuing education and emphasis on public information and public affairs.

Established: 1956.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility, braille in elevators and rooms.

Publications: Perspectives (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to ophthalmologists and to agencies in Texas. Emphasis on providing information to the public.

Texas Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1503 South IH 35

Austin, TX 78741

Tel: (512) 707-2020

(512) 326-8504 (Fax)

www.texas.optometry.net

E-mail: texop@aol.com

BJ Avery, Executive Director

Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

1100 West 45th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3494
Tel: (800) 872-5273
(512) 454-8631
(512) 206-9188 (TDD/TTY)
(512) 454-3395 (Fax)
www.tsbvi.edu

Philip H. Hatlen, Superintendent, (512) 206-9133,
philhatlen@tsbvi.edu

Miles Fain, Principal, Academic Year Comprehensive
Programs, Early Concepts, Applied Academics,
Academics, Basic Skills and Functional Academics,
(512) 206-9251, milesfain@tsbvi.edu

Cyral G. Miller, Director of Outreach Program, (512)
206-9242, cyralmiller@tsbvi.edu

Lauren Newton, Principal, Special Programs, including
summer programs and short-term programs., (512)
206-9119, laurennewton@tsbvi.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities for children and youth who are visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities, to develop the skills necessary to lead vocationally, personally, and socially satisfying and productive lives.

Established: 1856.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: A visual impairment that is impacting opportunities to learn.

Ages served: 6 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Home-style living facilities and group homes for elementary, secondary and deaf-blind students. They are not clients, they are students.

Clients served annually: Academic Year: 160,
Short-term: 120, Summer: 250.

Staff: 350 full-time employees. All staff necessary to safely and productively operate a 24-hour, seven-day school.

Fee structure: State and federal grant supported. No fees required.

Publications: Publications catalog.

Additional information: TSBVI is a center of expertise in Texas, and offers services that reach all blind and visually impaired students in the state. TSBVI is a major source for published curriculum guides, and supports an excellent website.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides technology evaluation and assistance in training assessment personnel on appropriate evaluation techniques.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Counseling: Offers family counseling, psychological testing, consultation and referral.

Education Services: Offers elementary through secondary education for blind and visually impaired children (including those who are multiply disabled and deaf-blind), summer school programs, short-term classes during the academic year, postsecondary programs, outreach technical support services throughout the state.

Employment: Provides evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training.

Health/Medical: Provides medical, ophthalmological, and dental treatment for students.

Library: The Learning Resource Center (LRC) offers students a large selection of reading materials in braille, large print, or recorded formats. Through the LRC, school districts and education service centers may request a short-term loan of books, tapes, and/or braille writers for students in need.

Low Vision: Provides low vision assessments at on-campus low vision clinic.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Offers parent training, resources and information, support for parent groups, financial assistance to attend workshops.

Professional Training: Provides workshops in several media for practicing teachers. Supports teacher preparation programs at two universities.

Recreation: Offers after-school and weekend activities.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in home management, personal management, and communications skills and offers occupational and physical therapy.

Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Talking Book Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Information/referral center

■ National Library Service library

1201 Brazos Street
Austin, TX 78711-2927
Tel: (800) 252-9605 (Toll-free in Texas)
(512) 463-5458
(512) 463-5449 (TDD/TTY)
(512) 936-0685 (Fax)
www.texasTalkingbooks.org
E-mail: tbp.services@tsl.state.tx.us
Ava M. Smith, Director, (512) 463-5428

Dina Abramson, Librarian, Disabilities and Information Referral Center, (512) 463-2831
 Roxanne Elder, Public Awareness Coordinator, (512) 463-5452, tbpinfo@tsl.state.tx.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free library service to Texans who, because of a visual, physical, or learning disability, are unable to read standard print material.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with qualifying physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Limited.

Clients served annually: 20,000.

Staff: 56 full-time employees. Librarians, library assistants, paraprofessionals, clerical personnel.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: "Spotlight," which features recordings from the recording studio; quarterly newsletter; publications for librarians, teachers, and parents.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Runs Disability Reference Center to provide information and make referrals.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Texas State Unit on Aging (TSUA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

701 West 51st Street
 Suite 253

Austin, TX 78751

Tel: (800) 252-9240 (Information & Referral In State)
 (512) 438-3200

(512) 438-4374 (Fax)

www.tdoa.state.tx.us

E-mail: mail@tdoa.state.tx.us

Mary Sapp, Executive Director,
 mary.sapp@tdoa.state.tx.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To act as the state's visible advocate and steward for a full range of services and opportunities that allow older Texans to live healthy, dignified, and independent lives.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Older Texans, their families and caregivers.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: Brochures, informational packets, reports, presentations, website, Texercise handbooks.

Additional information: The Texas State Unit on Aging (TSUA) oversees the operations of 28 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) throughout Texas. AAA's offer a wide variety of services, programs and resources to older Texans, their families and caregivers.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Health/Medical, In-Home Services, Information and Referral to older persons.

Counseling: Offers legal and financial counseling for seniors to help them make informed decisions.

Health/Medical: Offers health and nutrition screening. TEXERCISE is a statewide fitness program, developed by the Texas State Unit on Aging to educate and involve older Texans and their families in physical activities and proper nutrition.

In-Home Services: Offers in-home services for seniors such as housekeeping, domestic chores, personal care and visitation.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to area agencies on aging as well as information about federal, state and local aging services.

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center: Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

3601 4th Street

Lubbock, TX 79430

Tel: (806) 743-2020

(806) 743-1782 (Fax)

www.ttuhsc.edu/eye

E-mail: steven.mathews@ttuhsc.edu

Steven Mathews, Director, Low Vision Service, (806) 743-2471 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help patients with decreased acuity improve the usefulness of their vision.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Lubbock County.

Geographic area served: West Texas and eastern New Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: Prefer ophthalmologic report, but will accept all patients.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon. 1:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, automatic doors, braille signage, elevators.

Staff: Optometrist; ophthalmology resident; ophthalmic assistant/technician.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Texas Tech University: Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Visual Impairment

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Box 41071

Lubbock, TX 79409

Tel: (806) 742-1997

(806) 742-2326 (Fax)

www.educ.ttu.edu/sowell2

E-mail: reachacrosstexas@ttu.edu

Nora Griffin-Shirley, Co-Director,

n.griffin-shirley@ttu.edu

Angela I. Gonzalez, Administrative Business Assistant,

Reach Across Texas Program, VIP Program

Patricia Kelly, Associate Research Professor,

pat.kelley@ttu.edu

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Offers graduate (master's, doctoral) programs for teachers of students with visual impairments and multiple disabilities and students with dual sensory impairments and for orientation and mobility specialists. Certification-only and summer coursework also offered. Offers training statewide, in its Reach Across Texas Program, to students on the Internet.

Travis Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2831 Manchaca Road

Austin, TX 78704

Tel: (512) 442-2329

(512) 442-5498 (Fax)

www.austinlighthouse.org

Jerry A. Mayfield, Executive Director,

jmayfield@austinlighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide vocational skills training to persons who are blind or visually impaired so that they may become gainfully employed.

Established: 1934.

County/District where located: Travis County.

Geographic area served: Austin area.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment; supported by state agency; ambulatory.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: 14 full time; 1 part time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes braille paper, canes, and low vision devices.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille classes.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Employment: Provides prevocational evaluation, job retention, job retraining, sheltered workshops.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Waco Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

Central Texas Veterans Health Care System

4800 Memorial Drive

Waco, TX 76711

Tel: (254) 752-6581

(254) 756-0987 (Fax)

Stan Poel, Chief, stan.poel2@med.va.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

Geographic area served: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Texas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind veterans who are eligible for Veterans Administration health care.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides comprehensive blind rehabilitation, including interdisciplinary inpatient and outpatient services.

Visual Aid Volunteers

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

617 State Street
Garland, TX 75040
Tel: (972) 272-1615
(972) 494-5002 (Fax)
E-mail: tx.braille@verizon.net
Whitney Gregory, Director of Braille Services,
wgregory@visualaidvolunteers.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1962.
County/District where located: Dallas.
Geographic area served: Unlimited.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).
Types of content: Textbooks, commercial materials, menus. LOC certified.

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2001 Austin Street
San Angelo, TX 76903
Tel: (325) 653-4231
(325) 657-9367 (Fax)
www.lighthousefortheblind.org/
E-mail: wtlb@wcc.net
Robert B. Porter, Executive Director, wtlb@wcc.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1963.
County/District where located: Tom Green County.
Geographic area served: 42 counties in western Texas.
Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, referral from state agency.
Ages served: 16 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.
Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility. Transportation available to and from facility.
Staff: 4 full time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Refers for other counseling/social work services. Provides consultation to other agencies.
Employment: Provides on-the-job training. Sells products manufactured in workshops (ball point pens, liquid-filled markers, canvas bags) on site and online. Refers for other employment services.

Utah

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Utah Department of Human Services:
Division of Aging and Adult Services
(801) 538-3910

Utah State Division of Services for the Blind
and Visually Impaired
(800) 284-1823

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Utah Department of Health: Division of
Family Services, Baby Watch Early
Intervention Program
(800) 961-4226

Educational Services

Utah State Office of Education: Special
Education Section
(801) 538-7587

Instructional Materials Center

Utah Educational Resource Center
(801) 629-4700

Rehabilitation Services

Utah State Division of Services for the Blind
and Visually Impaired
(800) 284-1823

School for the Blind

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind: Utah
School for the Blind
(800) 990-9328

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Educational Agencies

Computer Center for Citizens with Disabilities

Information/Referral Centers

Friends for Sight

Libraries

Library for the Blind and Disabled, Utah State Library
Division (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

John A. Moran Eye Center

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Utah Ophthalmological Society
Utah Optometric Association

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Utah: Multi-University Consortium
Teacher Training Program

Radio Reading Stations

Library for the Blind and Disabled, Utah State Library
Division

Rehabilitation Agencies

Computer Center for Citizens with Disabilities
Utah Industries for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind: Utah School
for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Utah Assistive Technology Program

Computer Center for Citizens with Disabilities

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Educational agency
- Rehabilitation agency

1595 West 500 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84104-5238
Tel: (801) 887-9380 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(801) 887-9382 (Fax)
www.usor.utah.gov/ucut/computers.htm
Craig Boogaard, Director, cboogaar@utah.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help improve the lives of children and adults with disabilities by introducing them and their family to the many ways in which computer technology can enhance their jobs, careers and education.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Must have a disability or an interest in assistive technology.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Staff: 3. 2 full-time professional and one full-time support staff.

Fee structure: No fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Information and Referral: Provides information regarding adapted computer products and augmentative communication devices for Utah residents.

Library: Maintains a small library of augmentative communication devices and some adapted computer equipment.

Rehabilitation: Provides training and informal hands-on experience with computers, adaptive equipment, and special software.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Friends for Sight

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center

661 South 200 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Tel: (801) 524-2020

(801) 322-3647 (Fax)

E-mail: 2020@4-sight.com

Colleen M. Malouf, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight through comprehensive vision screening.

Established: 1958.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Offers screenings and referrals for toddlers age 3 and above.

Information and Referral: Information available on vision loss.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Rocky Mountain Region Office (HKNC)

See Colorado.

John A. Moran Eye Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic

50 North Medical Drive
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT 84132
Tel: (801) 581-2352

(801) 581-3357 (Fax)

www.insight.med.utah.edu/

E-mail: webmaster.moran@hsc.utah.edu

Randall J. Olson, M.D., Chairman and Director,
randall.olson@hsc.utah.edu

Julia J. Kleinschmidt, Ph.D, LCSW, Director, Patient Support Program, julia.kleinschmidt@hsc.utah.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye research, education, clinical care and community support that aims to increase the international body of information on the eye and fuel innovations that prevent vision loss, combat blinding diseases and restore sight.

Established: 1993.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral and current ophthalmological report.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Ophthalmologist on call 24 hours a day.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, public funds, state funds.

Staff: Ophthalmologists, counselors, ophthalmic photographers, optometrists, ophthalmic technicians.

Fee structure: Clinic accepts Medicare and most insurance plans. No charge for support program.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers counseling for visually impaired individuals and families, support groups, orientation to vision loss program.

Health/Medical: Provides eye care and does research.

Information and Referral: Refers to appropriate resources.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers internships, fellowships, professional training related to eye care and vision loss and training for optometrists, social workers, psychologists, ophthalmic technicians.

Library for the Blind and Disabled, Utah State Library Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

■ Radio reading station

250 North 1950 West
Suite A

Salt Lake City, UT 84116-7901

Tel: (800) 453-4293

(801) 715-6789

(801) 715-6721 (TDD/TTY)

(801) 715-6767 (Fax)

www.blindlibrary.utah.gov

E-mail: blind@utah.gov

Bessie Y. Oakes, Program Manager/Librarian,
boakes@utah.gov

Dennis Hall, Manager, Radio Reading Service,
dhall@utah.gov

Sarah Pitkin, Librarian/Readers Advisor,
spitkin@utah.gov

Michael Sweeney, Librarian/Reader's Advisor,
msweeney@utah.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide books and other information to blind and physically handicapped persons in a format they can use.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Books by local authors and of local interest.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Provides programming Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-12:00 AM, Sat.-Sun. 6:00 PM-8:00 PM. Requires registration to participate. Newspapers read: Salt Lake Tribune, Deseret News, Ogden Standard Examiner.

University of Utah: Multi-University Consortium Teacher Training Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

University of Utah

Department of Special Education

1705 Campus Center Drive Room 221

Salt Lake City, UT 84112-9253

Tel: (801) 585-3925

(801) 585-6476 (Fax)

www.ed.utah.edu/SPED/

E-mail: Day_J@ed.utah.edu

Michael Hardman, Departmental Chair,

Michael.Hardman@ed.utah.edu

Janice N. Day, Clinical Assistant Professor,

Jan.Day@ed.utah.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prepare early interventionists, preschool teachers, and K-12 teachers to work with children who have sensory impairments, and their families and to prepare teachers to support children and youth in home, school, and community environments, fostering optimal development, promoting satisfying interactions within families and with peers.

County/District where located: Salt Lake, UT.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Additional information: The Multi University Consortium for Teacher Training in Sensory Impairments is a cooperative effort between the Special Education Departments of the University of Utah and Utah State University. This program stresses family-centered practices which are sensitive to cultural diversity.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Offers courses which present a holistic approach to the education of children and youth with hearing or vision impairment with an age-appropriate emphasis on developmentally appropriate practices and academic achievement.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center

See California.

Utah Assistive Technology Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Center for Persons with Disabilities
6855 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-6855
Tel: (435) 797-3824
(435) 797-7089 (TDD/TTY)
(435) 797-2355 (Fax)
www.uatpat.org
E-mail: uatpat@cc.usu.edu
Martin Blair, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help individuals know what assistive technology is available, how to receive funding, and to provide links and resources.

Established: 1989.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Provides information on AT funding organizations and a 4-step process to increase AT funding.

Information and Referral: Produces dozens of information sheets to assist people with disabilities obtain the information necessary to make informed choices about assistive technology.

Utah Department of Health: Division of Family Services, Baby Watch Early Intervention Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

44 North Medical Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4720
Tel: (800) 961-4226
(801) 584-8226
(801) 584-4896 (Fax)
www.utahbabywatch.org

Susan Ord, Part C Coordinator, sord@utah.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide early intervention services statewide for children birth to three with developmental delays and/or disabilities.

Established: 1987.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Statewide.

Eligibility requirements: Birth to 3 years of age, measurable delay in development, including visual development or visual disability.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: Professional and Paraprofessional.

Fee structure: Sliding fee scale.

Additional information: www.utahbabywatch.org.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Participates in health fairs, community events.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation/technical assistance to local public school districts.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Utah's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Professional Training: Offers in-service training for personnel working in early intervention.

Utah Department of Human Services: Division of Aging and Adult Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

120 North 200 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84103
Tel: (801) 538-3910
(801) 538-4395 (Fax)
www.hsdaas.state.ut.us
E-mail: DAAS@utah.gov
Helen Goddard, Director, ggoddard@hs.state.ut.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Utah.

Ages served: 55 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Utah Educational Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
742 Harrison Boulevard
Ogden, UT 84404
Tel: (801) 629-4700
www.usdb.org/departments/ERC/home.htm
Lorri Quigley, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information, technology, and instructional materials which assist Utah children with sensory impairments in reaching their maximum potential and to facilitate access to materials, information and training for teachers and parents of children with sensory impairments.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Utah.

Utah Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

P.O. Box 1258
Salt Lake City, UT 84110-1258
Tel: (801) 269-0314
(801) 262-2066 (Fax)
Jan Quinn, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide employment and employment placement services for blind and visually impaired adults.

Established: 1909.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Blind adults.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers job placement and training in employment and job skills.

Rehabilitation: Provides services in cooperation with State of Utah rehabilitation program.

Utah Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

540 East 500 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84102
Tel: (801) 355-7477
(801) 532-1550 (Fax)
www.utaheyemds.org/
E-mail: uos@utahmed.org
Anette Mahler, Executive Director

Utah Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

230 West 200 South
Suite 2110
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-3409
Tel: (801) 364-9103
(801) 364-9613 (Fax)
www.utaheyedoc.org
E-mail: uoa@xmission.com
Clive Watson, Executive Director

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind: Utah School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

742 Harrison Boulevard
Ogden, UT 84404
Tel: (800) 990-9328
(801) 629-4700
(801) 629-4701 (TDD/TTY)
(801) 629-4896 (Fax)
www.usdb.org

Linda C. Rutledge, Superintendent, (801) 629-4710,
lindar@usdb.org

Lee W. Robinson, Blind School Program Director, (801)
629-4736, doroths@usdb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide high quality direct and indirect services to sensory impaired children from birth through age 21 throughout the state of Utah.

Established: 1896.

County/District where located: Weber County.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Ages 3-21, Utah resident, visual impairment.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for visually impaired students ages 4 1/2-21 provided during the week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Growing up, INSITE, Barraga Assessment of Visual Development tests.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Braille and large-print when other sources are not available.

Early Intervention: Offers parent/infant program.

Education Services: Provides instruction in developmental areas, home-based program for visually impaired infants, 0-2 years, with or without other impairments (includes deaf-blind), home teaching, preschool classes, consultant services to other programs

for visually handicapped or multihandicapped. Offers full program of general academic studies.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment, audiological testing and functional vision evaluations.

Preschool: Preschool classes offered to visually impaired children between ages 3 and 5, with transportation provided.

Professional Training: Offers internship programs, in-service training, fieldwork with public schools.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Salt Lake City: 2870 Connor Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84109, melaniea@usdb.k12.ut.us, Melanie Austin, Blind School Program Director

Utah State Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DSBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Independent living program**

■ **State rehabilitation services**

250 North 1950 West, Suite B
Salt Lake City, UT 84116-7902
Tel: (800) 284-1823

(801) 323-4343

(801) 323-4395 (TDD/TTY)

(801) 323-4396 (Fax)

www.usor.utah.gov/dsbvi.htm

E-mail: mshowel@utah.gov

William Gibson, Director, bgibson@utah.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist blind and visually impaired individuals in achieving maximum levels of independence and, whenever possible, developing goals toward competitive employment.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Completely accessible.

Residential Facilities: Apartments provided for out-of-town students.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction in braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach training in homes and businesses.

Counseling: Provides counseling in adjustment to blindness and vision loss assisted by social worker, or in a class/group. Provides link to support groups in Utah. Consultation and referral, group work, individual counseling.

Employment: Offers evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, placement, vending facility training, follow-up.

Low Vision: Provides and supplies low vision devices. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Maintains vision screening clinics for pre-school and kindergarten children throughout the state.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home management, personal management, communications, adjustment to blindness, social skills, college preparation, and computer skills. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

LOCAL OFFICES

Ogden: Ogden Office, 150 North Washington Boulevard, Ogden, UT 84404

Provo: Provo Office, 150 East Center Street, Suite 3300, Provo, UT 84606-3157

St. George: St. George Office, 515 West 300 North, Suite B, St. George, UT 84770

Utah State Office of Education: Special Education Section

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State educational services**

250 East 500 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200
Tel: (801) 538-7587

(801) 538-7876 (TDD/TTY)

(801) 538-7911 (Fax)

www.usoe.k12.ut.us/sars/

Karl A. Wilson, Director, At Risk and Special Education Services, (801) 538-7509, kawilson@usoe.k12.ut.us
Cheralyn B. Creer, Specialist, Vision Impairments, (801) 538-7576, cceer@usoe.k12.ut.us

Nan Gray, Coordinator, Special Education Services Unit, (801) 538-7757, ngray@usoe.k12.ut.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower each student with disabilities to become a caring, competent, and contributing member of an integrated, diverse, and changing society. This will be accomplished through the provision of resources, sharing of information, and coordination of services that enhance personal capability and quality of life.

County/District where located: Salt Lake County.

Geographic area served: Utah.

Eligibility requirements: Eligibility is determined by criteria under the 13 IDEA disability categories.

Ages served: 3 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Located downtown. Easy access to public transportation. Wheelchair accessible.

Clients served annually: Varies, 03-04 school year nearly 57,000 students eligible for special education.

Staff: 18. State Director of Special Education, Special Education Coordinator, Education Specialists, CSPD and State Improvement Grant Manager, State and

Federal Compliance Officer, Financial Analyst, Automated Systems Support Specialist, Support Staff.

Publications: All publications from USOE Special Education Section are available online.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers supplemental state funds for visually impaired students in local schools.

Vermont

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Vermont Agency of Human Services: Division
for the Blind and Visually Impaired
(802) 241-2210

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Vermont Department of Health: Family,
Infant, and Toddler Project
(802) 651-1786

Educational Services

Vermont Department of Education: Special
Education Unit
(802) 828-2755

Instructional Materials Center

Vermont Association for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
(877) 350-8838

Rehabilitation Services

Vermont Agency of Human Services: Division
for the Blind and Visually Impaired
(802) 241-2210

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Vermont Agency of Human Services: Division for the
Blind and Visually Impaired

Libraries

Vermont Department of Libraries Special Services Unit
(NLS)

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Vermont Ophthalmological Society
Vermont Optometric Association

Rehabilitation Agencies

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually
Impaired
Vermont Association of Business, Industry, and
Rehabilitation

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: New England Region Office (HKNC)

See Massachusetts.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

Vermont Agency of Human Services: Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services
- State unit on aging

Osgood Building
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-2304

Tel: (802) 241-2210
 (802) 241-2128 (Fax)
www.dad.state.vt.us/dbvi
 E-mail: fredj@dad.state.vt.us

Fred Jones, Director, fredj@dad.state.vt.us
 Geoff Howard, Rehabilitation Technology Consultant,
 (802) 479-5983, geoff@rehabtech.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer the federal-state rehabilitation program and provide services for totally blind, legally blind, and visually impaired persons.

Geographic area served: Vermont.

Eligibility requirements: Medically diagnosed visual impairment that constitutes a handicap to social and economic self-sufficiency.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:45 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses rehabilitation needs of elderly blind/visually impaired.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance to external entities working with blind and visually impaired.

Counseling: Offers individual, group, family/parent and couples counseling; placement in school, referral to community services. Contracts for and provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services.

Employment: Offers pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, job development, vocational placement, follow-up service, vending stand training. Contracts for other employment-related services.

Health/Medical: Contracts and refers for health services.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Low Vision: Provides and supplies low vision devices. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in rehabilitation counseling, vocational rehabilitation.

Recreation: Offers recreational services for seniors.

Rehabilitation: Contracts and refers for rehabilitation services. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Montpelier: 10 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, Peggy Howard

Rutland: 190 ASA Bloomer Building, Rutland, VT 05701-9408, Terry Stapleton

Springfield: 100 Mineral Street, Suite 301, Springfield, VT 05156, Mike Goldberg

LOCAL OFFICES

Burlington: 108 Cherry Street, Suite 202, Burlington, VT 05401, Leslie Anderson

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

■ Rehabilitation agency

37 Elmwood Avenue

Burlington, VT 05401

Tel: (877) 350-8838 (In-state.)

(802) 863-1358

(802) 863-1481 (Fax)

www.vabvi.org

E-mail: general@vabvi.org

Steven Pouliot, Executive Director

Stephanie Bissonette, Supervisor, Special Education

Judith Cardinal, Office Manager

Carol Eaton, Adult Services Coordinator, Brattleboro Office

Evan Smith, Director of Development

Lynn Stone, Director of Operations/Controller

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for blind, visually impaired and multiply disabled adults and children.

Established: 1926.

County/District where located: Chittenden County.

Geographic area served: Vermont.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment of 20/60 or less.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Provides accessibility.

Clients served annually: 1400.

Staff: 45.

Publications: The Voice (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling, Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides educational, low vision and mobility assessments.

Assistive Products: Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers literacy programs for children.

Community Outreach Programs: Programs available.

Computer Training: Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to schools and Area Agencies on Aging.

Counseling: Offers outreach, peer counseling.

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Vermont.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Assists parents.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, and low vision training.

Transportation: Offers transportation services for seniors.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Brattleboro: 38 Park Place, Brattleboro, VT 05301, vabvi@aol.com

Montpelier: 10 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, vabvicen@aol.com

Rutland: 10 Burnham Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, vabvisw@aol.com

Vermont Association of Business, Industry, and Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

75 Talcott Road
Suite 30

Williston, VT 05495

Tel: (800) 639-2909 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(802) 878-1107 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(802) 288-9697 (Fax)

www.vabir.com

E-mail: vabir@aol.com

Hugh Bradshaw, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access for disabled jobseekers into the world of work, to advocate public and private policies that encourage and increase access for persons with disabilities in the work environment, to educate the business community about the issues and benefits regarding employing persons with disabilities, to help employers meet their staffing needs for a stable and skilled workforce.

Established: 1979.

Geographic area served: Vermont.

Eligibility requirements: Certified disability.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Operates as a private, non-profit employment agency assisting in the successful employment of people with disabilities. Offers vocational counseling, job development, job placement, follow-up, consultation and training to employers on disability-employment issues.

Vermont Department of Education: Special Education Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

State Office Building

120 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05620

Tel: (802) 828-2755

(802) 828-0573 (Fax)

www.state.vt.us/educ/new/html/pgm_sped.html

Leane Garland, Acting Director, (802) 828-0555,

lgarland@doe.state.vt.us

Mark Sustic, Early Education Consultant, (802)

828-5115, (802) 828-5115 (Fax),

marksustic@education.state.vt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Washington County.

Geographic area served: Vermont.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Additional information: For information about local facilities, consult superintendent of schools in area or Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 37 Elmwood Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Distributes braille and large-type books, tapes and tape recorders.

Early Intervention: Administers early intervention services for at-risk children.

Education Services: Administers supplemental state funds for visually impaired children attending local public schools. Provides special educational services for visually impaired children. Distributes educational materials in braille and large-type formats. Provides tape recorders.

Parent Assistance: Offers parental counseling and educational support team for families.

Preschool: Administers preschool services for blind/visually impaired students within special education programs at local schools in Vermont.

Professional Training: Offers tuition and fellowships.

Vermont Department of Health: Family, Infant, and Toddler Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

108 Cherry Street
Burlington, VT 05402
Tel: (802) 651-1786
(800) 660-4427 (TDD/TTY)
(802) 863-7635 (Fax)
www.healthyvermonters.info/hi/cshn/fitp/fitp.shtml
Helen Keith, Director, Children with Special Health Needs, hkeith@vdh.state.vt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Vermont.

Eligibility requirements: Young children who have a delay in development or a health condition that may lead to a delay in development.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Vermont's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Vermont Department of Libraries Special Services Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

578 Paine Turnpike North
Berlin, VT 05602
Tel: (800) 479-1711 (In state only.)
(802) 828-3273
(802) 828-2199 (Fax)
E-mail: ssu@dol.state.vt.us
Jennifer Anne Hart, Assistant Librarian
S. Francis Woods, Special Services Consultant,
frank.woods@dol.state.vt.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library services, in the form of recorded materials, free to persons unable to read the printed page (blind, visually impaired and physically disabled).

County/District where located: Washington County.

Geographic area served: Vermont. Braille readers receive service from Massachusetts.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:45 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Ground-level wheelchair access.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides cassette books, cassette book machines, large-print books, and descriptive videos to blind and physically handicapped persons.

Vermont Ophthalmological Society

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 1457
Rutland, VT 05701
Tel: (802) 773-8328
(802) 773-5673 (Fax)
David Lawlor, President

Vermont Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

50 Bank Street
St. Albans, VT 05478
Tel: (802) 524-9561
(802) 524-6060 (Fax)
E-mail: sjs@vtoptcare.com

Virginia

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Virginia Department for the Aging
(800) 552-3402

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision
Impaired
(800) 622-2155

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental
Retardation and Substance Abuse Services:
Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia
(800) 234-1448

Educational Services

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision
Impaired
(800) 622-2155

Instructional Materials Center

Virginia Library and Resource Center, Virginia
Department for the Blind and Vision
Impaired
(800) 552-7015

Rehabilitation Services

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision
Impaired
(800) 622-2155

Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind
and Vision Impaired
(804) 371-3151

School for the Blind

Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at
Staunton
(800) 522-8732

Virginia School for the Deaf, Blind and
Multi-Disabled at Hampton
(800) 666-0041

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Alexandria Library-Beatley Central Library: Talking
Book Service
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Virginia Unit

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Virginia School for the Deaf, Blind and Multi-Disabled
at Hampton

Information/Referral Centers

Prevent Blindness Virginia

Libraries

Access Services, Fairfax County Public Library (NLS)
Alexandria Library-Beatley Central Library: Talking
Book Service (NLS)
Fredericksburg Area Subregional Library, Central
Rappahannock Regional Library (NLS)
Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Newport News Public Library System (NLS)
Special Services Library, Department of Public Libraries
(NLS)
Talking Book Center, Staunton Public Library (NLS)

Talking Book Service, Arlington County Department of Libraries (NLS)
 Talking Book Services, Roanoke City Public Library, Melrose-Outreach Branch (NLS)
 Virginia Library and Resource Center, Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired
 Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired

Membership Organizations (Professional)

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
 Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired
 Council for Exceptional Children
 International Association of Audio Information Services
 National Association of State Directors of Special Education, Inc.
 National Industries for the Blind
 Opticians Association of America
 Virginia Optometric Association
 Virginia Society of Ophthalmology
 Vision Council of America: Better Vision Institute

National Organizations

American Diabetes Association
 American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
 Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired

Council for Exceptional Children
 International Association of Audio Information Services
 National Association of State Directors of Special Education, Inc.
 National Industries for the Blind
 Opticians Association of America
 Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America
 Vision Council of America: Better Vision Institute

Radio Reading Stations

Hampton Roads Voice of the Print Handicapped
 International Association of Audio Information Services
 Valley Voice Reading Service for the Blind
 Virginia Voice for the Print Handicapped
 WVTM Radio Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired:
 Virginia Industries for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton
 Virginia School for the Deaf, Blind and Multi-Disabled at Hampton

Social Service Organizations

Virginia Association of Workers for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Virginia Assistive Technology System

Access Services, Fairfax County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

12000 Government Center Parkway
 Suite 123
 Fairfax, VA 22035-0012
 Tel: (703) 324-8380
 (703) 324-8365 (TDD/TTY)
 (703) 324-8386 (Fax)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/as/default.htm
 E-mail: access@fairfaxcounty.gov
 Jennette A. Studley, Librarian

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Fairfax County, Fairfax City, and Falls Church.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Alexandria Library-Beatley Central Library: Talking Book Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ National Library Service library

5005 Duke Street
 Alexandria, VA 22304-2903
 Tel: (703) 519-5911
 (703) 519-5918 (TDD/TTY)
 (703) 519-5916 (Fax)
 Loni McCaffrey, Librarian,
emccaffrey@alexandria.lib.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Alexandria.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Publications: Patron newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Produces materials on request.

Computer Training: Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes to blind and physically handicapped persons.

American Diabetes Association (ADA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Fredericksburg Area Subregional Library, Central Rappahannock Regional Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1201 Caroline Street

Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Tel: (800) 628-4807 (Toll-free in Virginia.)

(540) 372-1144

(540) 371-9165 (TDD/TTY)

(540) 373-9411 (Fax)

www.librarypoint.org

Nancy Buck, Librarian, nbuck@crri.org

Barbara Burnett, Outreach Manager, bburnett@crri.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1988.

County/District where located: City of Fredericksburg.

Geographic area served: Fredericksburg, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Westmoreland Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Attempts to braille short selections according to library user needs.

Hampton Roads Voice of the Print Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

5200 Hampton Boulevard

Norfolk, VA 23508

Tel: (757) 889-9400

(757) 489-0007 (Fax)

www.whro.org

Lynn Summerall, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Norfolk County.

Geographic area served: Southeast Virginia.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Funded by: State funds, United Way.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from newspapers and occasionally from reader's choice. Airls weekly half-hour interviews with blind listeners. Publications include the Virginia Pilot, Daily Press, variety of weekly and monthly magazines.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: East Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Maryland.

International Association of Audio Information Services (IAAIS)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Newport News Public Library System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

110 Main Street

Newport News, VA 23601

Tel: (757) 591-4858 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(757) 591-7425 (Fax)

www.newport-news.va.us/library/libsys/locat/mainst/outrech/libblind.htm

E-mail: nnlbph@nngov.com

Sue Baldwin, Supervising Librarian,
sbaldwin@nngov.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: James City and York Counties, cities of Newport News and Williamsburg.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual impairments, physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print, and reading disabled.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM, Fri.-Sat. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM, Sun. 1:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Braille signage, ADA accessible building and parking.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books and descriptive videos for blind and physically handicapped persons.

National Association of State Directors of Special Education, Inc. (NASDSE)

See U.S. National Organizations.

National Industries for the Blind (NIB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Opticians Association of America

See U.S. National Organizations.

Prevent Blindness Virginia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

11618 Busy Street
Richmond, VA 23236

Tel: (888) 790-2020

(804) 423-2020

(804) 423-5409 (Fax)

www.pbv.org

Timothy L. Gresham, President and CEO, tim@pbv.org
Robin Mead, Children's Vision Screening and Public Relations Director

Martha Telford, Photoscreening and Adult Services Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To save the sight of Virginia's children through one-on-one vision screenings, eye safety programs, education and research.

Established: 1957.

County/District where located: Chesterfield County.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Fee structure: No charge.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services to older persons.

Community Outreach Programs: Identify children in service area who may have vision problems, place them within healthcare system and provide assistance at no charge.

Low Vision: Facilitates EYEWATCH, a support group for seniors with low vision.

Parent Assistance: Facilitates use of voucher program in which Virginia's uninsured and medically underserved children receive eye exams and eyeglasses free.

Professional Training: Offers workshops to train school nurses, volunteers, Lions Clubs to conduct vision screenings.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic: Virginia Unit (RFB&D)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1021 Millmont Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Tel: (800) 221-4792

(804) 293-4797

(804) 293-4567 (Fax)

www.rfbd.org

E-mail: info@rfbd.org

Chris Eure, Executive Director, ceure@rfbd.org

Janet Ewert, Studio Director, jewert@rfbd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Established: 1948.

County/District where located: City of Charlottesville.

Geographic area served: Primarily Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a documented disability, including a visual impairment, learning disability or other physical disability which makes reading standard print difficult or impossible, are eligible to use RFB&D's audio textbooks but membership is required in order to access RFB&D's library. Two types of membership are offered: individual and institutional. Students may join as individual members or become a member through their school if the school has an RFB&D Learning Through Listening® institutional membership. Some students become members through their school and also maintain an individual membership.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:45 PM.

Accessibility: ADA-compliant.

Clients served annually: Nationally RFB&D serves over 126,000.

Staff: 5 staff members, all reading/recording done by volunteers.

Fee structure: Refer to website www.rfbd.org.

Publications: Annual Report and Impact newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Educational materials, suitable to the classroom.

Community Outreach Programs: Statewide outreach to schools, teachers, students, parents.

Library: Maintains educational library of over 80,000 textbooks, professional and reference books in alternate formats.

Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Special Services Library, Department of Public Libraries

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

936 Independence Boulevard

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Tel: (757) 464-9175 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(757) 464-9175 (TDD/TTY)

(757) 464-6741 (Fax)

www.vbgov.com/libraries

Aleene Wicher, Librarian, awicher@vbgoc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Isle of Wright, Northampton, and Southampton Counties. Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach cities.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 10:00 AM-9:00 PM; Fri.-Sat. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes to blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Book Center, Staunton Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1 Churchville Avenue

Staunton, VA 24401

Tel: (800) 995-6215

(540) 885-6215

(540) 332-3906 (Fax)

www.staunton.va.us/talkingbooks

E-mail: talkingbooks@ci.staunton.va.us

Oakley Pearson, Librarian,

pearsonjo@ci.staunton.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer personalized and comprehensive library services to patrons, to develop resources to satisfy a full range of information needs unique to the print handicapped.

Established: 1982.

Geographic area served: Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockridge, Rockingham Counties, and cities of Buena Vista, Lexington, Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Waynesboro.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Braille signage, wheelchair access.

Funded by: Endowments, foundation grants, government grants, Lions Clubs, private donations, state funds, United Way.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Book Service, Arlington County Department of Libraries

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

1015 North Quincy Street

Arlington, VA 22201

Tel: (703) 228-6333

(703) 358-6320 (TDD/TTY)

(703) 228-7720 (Fax)

www.co.arlington.va.us/lib/outreach/special.htm

E-mail: talkingbooks@co.arlington.va.us

Roxanne G. Barnes, Librarian,

rbarne@co.arlington.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Arlington County.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes to blind and physically handicapped persons.

Talking Book Services, Roanoke City Public Library, Melrose-Outreach Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

2607 Salem Turnpike NW

Roanoke, VA 24017-5397

Tel: (800) 528-2342

(540) 853-2648

(540) 853-1030 (Fax)

www.ci.roanoke.va.us/depts/library/index.html

E-mail: library@ci.roanoke.va.us

Richard Taylor, Librarian, branchmelrose@hotmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide equitable access to the world of knowledge and ideas, enriching the life of our community and to create a climate of life-long learning.

Established: 1964.

County/District where located: City of Roanoke, 5th District.

Geographic area served: Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Roanoke Counties and the cities of Clifton Forge, Covington, Roanoke, and Salem.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 9:00

AM-6:00 PM, Thurs. 12:00 PM-9:00 PM, Sat. 9:00

AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Large-print titles. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Has staff available to give overview of services to interested groups.

Information and Referral: Provides local agency newsletters. Provides direct information to customers via e-mail, telephone, fax.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Parent Assistance: Refers to appropriate agencies on requests.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

Valley Voice Reading Service for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

JMU Seeger Bldg RM 101

821 S Main Street

Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Tel: (800) 677-9672 (Ask for VALLEY VOICE.)

(540) 568-3811

(540) 568-3814 (Fax)

www.ValleyVoice.org

E-mail: valleyvoice@jmu.edu

Terry Ward, Program Director, wardtj@jmu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage independence and productive citizenship for thousands of blind, partially-blind, and medically print impaired people in the Western and central Virginia by providing equal access to civic information, public opinion, time-sensitive local news, and other published items (which would otherwise be available only to those who can see or hold print matter).

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Rockingham County.

Geographic area served: Airborne and Cable-TV broadcast area covers most of Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Staunton, Woodstock, Waynesboro, and surrounding county land. Cable TV channels listed by city at website www.ValleyVoice.org.

Eligibility requirements: Those without access to Valley Voice via Cable TV may apply for a specialized radio receiver. There must be third-party professional (not a member of the applicant's family) certification that the applicant does have a print-impairment. Person should contact Valley Voice and confirm that the applicant is print-impaired. Certification does not require a doctor's signature. Any health care worker (including a doctor or nurse), retirement home administrator, social worker, or clergyperson (minister, rabbi, priest) may certify. Provide certifying professional's name, title, and organization and address.

Ages served: 1 to 120.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Budget: \$50,000.

Clients served annually: Up to 10,000 print-impaired people have access to V V.

Staff: 1. One state worker with other unrelated duties organizes Valley Voice on a half-time basis. Worker codes broadcast computers, installs equipment, organizes events, supervises 50-person workforce of readers, and oversees day-to-day operation. Readings done by unpaid volunteers to minimize costs.

Fee structure: Valley Voice special radios lent free to medically qualified people without access to Valley

Voice on Cable-TV. Donations from general public and organizations are encouraged but not required.

Additional information: State-organized, volunteer-powered service fueled by donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Reading Services: Broadcasts time-sensitive print, including the Washington Post, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Charlottesville Daily Progress, Staunton News Leader, Harrisonburg Daily News-Record, Shenandoah Herald, Waynesboro News-Virginian, and Page News, as well as various national and state magazines. Also records certain civic information and official business at the request of state agencies. Valley Voice produced the audio version of the State Board of Elections official documents related to the 2004 Presidential Election and subsequent elections.

Virginia Assistive Technology System

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

8004 Franklin Farms Drive
Richmond, VA 23288-0300

Tel: (800) 552-5019

(804) 662-9990 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(804) 622-9478 (Fax)

www.vats.org

Ken Knorr, Director, knorrkh@drs.state.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: With ten other agencies, has developed a statewide policy on assistive technology that is intended to identify and resolve agency barriers and develop consistent assistive technology policies within each agency.

Assistive Products: Maintains three Assistive Technology Regional Sites that provide training, public awareness, and general technical assistance for consumers in need of assistive technology.

Financial Assistance: Works towards the implementation of a statewide loan-financing program for assistive technology. Maintains a funding resource directory.

Information and Referral: Offers statewide information and referral services concerning questions related to assistive technology.

Virginia Association of Workers for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Social service organization

4222 Bonniebank Road
Suite 203

Richmond, VA 23234

Tel: (804) 767-4080 (Lodge.)

(804) 275-3058 (Fax)

www.lions24b.org/vawblind/index.htm

E-mail: Vwblind@cs.com

Frank Carlomagno, Executive Director, Richmond
Office, vwblind@cs.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide recreational and organized activities for blind and visually impaired individuals. Services offer opportunities to socialize with others who share a common experience.

Established: 1919.

County/District where located: Chesterfield County.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Any visually handicapped person able to function independently. Client may bring along a helper, friend, or family member.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: All year if there is a group of 10 or more.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Residential Facilities: Approximately 50 people at a time.

Fee structure: \$10 a year membership, plus fee for room and board.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Voice-synthesized electronic appliances for the blind.

Recreation: Offers opportunities for blind or visually impaired individuals to socialize with others who share a common experience.

Virginia Department for the Aging

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

1610 Forest Avenue
Suite 100

Richmond, VA 23229

Tel: (800) 552-3402 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (Information & Referral for both in-state and out-of-state callers.)

(804) 662-9333 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(804) 662-9354 (Fax)

www.vda.virginia.gov

E-mail: aging@vda.virginia.gov

Jay W. DeBoer, Commissioner, (804) 662-7035 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To foster the independence, security, and dignity of older Virginians by promoting partnership with families and communities.

Established: 1958.

County/District where located: Henrico County.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: 60 years of age or older.

Ages served: 60 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 25.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

Publications: The Department has a variety of publications in the area of aging, long-term care, and consumer protection.

Additional information: The Department funds a network of 25 local Area Agencies on Aging which provide direct services to eligible older Virginians and their families.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Counseling, Employment, Information and Referral to older persons.

Assessment: Administers Uniform Assessment Instrument (UAI) to assess clients for all aging services.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers outreach services to the community.

Counseling: Provides information and referral regarding Virginia's long-term care service system. Also provides insurance counseling for persons 60 and older on Medicare, long-term care insurance, and Medicaid.

Employment: Provides 55 and older, eligible individuals with community service work experience for 20 hours per week in preparation for unsubsidized employment.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services. Provides resource information and assistance to older persons and their caregivers.

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- Low vision center/clinic
- State educational services
- State rehabilitation services

397 Azalea Avenue

Richmond, VA 23227-3600

Tel: (800) 622-2155 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (In state only)

(804) 371-3140

(804) 371-3351 (Fax)

www.vdbvi.org

Joseph A. Bowman, Commissioner, Administrative,
(804) 371-3157 (Fax), bowmanja@dbvi.state.va.us

Robert C. Berrang, Deputy Commissioner, Enterprises,
(434) 295-5168, berranrc@dbvi.state.va.us

Tim Brown, Fairfax Regional Manager, (703) 359-1100,
brownmt@dbvi.state.va.us

Robert S. Burton, Deputy Commissioner for Services,
(804) 371-3146, (804) 371-3157 (Fax),
burtonrs@dbvi.state.va.us

Kim M. Jennings, Richmond Regional Manager, (804)
371-3421, (804) 371-3174 (Fax),
jenninkm@dbvi.state.va.us

Barbara McCarthy, Director, Library and Resource
Center, (804) 371-3661, mccartbn@dbvi.state.va.us

Susan D. Payne, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation
Program, (804) 371-3184, paynesd@dbvi.state.va.us

Glen R. Slonneger, Jr., Director, Educational Services &
Orientation and Mobility Services,
slonnegr@dbvi.state.va.us

Jane B. Ward-Solomon, Director, Rehabilitation
Teaching/Independent Living,
wardjb@dbvi.state.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower blind, visually impaired, and deafblind individuals to achieve their maximum level of employment, education and personal independence.

Established: 1922.

County/District where located: Henrico County.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: While in training at our rehabilitation center.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides evaluation services.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides outreach services.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides infants and children, their families, their teachers with technical assistance for evaluation, program planning, curriculum modification, transition programs, adaptive equipment.

Counseling: Provides vocational and adjustment counseling, parent counseling, social evaluation, individual and group counseling.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention services.

Education Services: Cooperates with local school divisions in the provision of educational services for school-age children who are blind or visually impaired.

Employment: Vocational Rehabilitation Program provides job placement and follow-up services, supported employment services for individuals who are blind and have other disabilities.

Information and Referral: Has intake and referral in each regional office. Refers to programs of the agency and/or to other community resources.

Library: Maintains a free library service to all eligible print-handicapped Virginians.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living, communication and home management skills, and in the use of assistive technology and devices, and other specialized services. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Bristol: 111 Commonwealth Avenue, Bristol, VA 24201, mitcherl@dbvi.state.va.us, Richard L. Mitchell, Regional Manager

Fairfax: 11150 Main Street, Suite 502, Fairfax, VA 22030, browntm@dbvi.state.va.us

Norfolk: 5505 Robin Hood Road, Suite F, Norfolk, VA 23513, soreyrl@dbvi.state.va.us, Richard Sorey, Regional Manager

Richmond: 397 Azalea Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227, jenninkm@dbvi.state.va.us, James G. Taylor, Chief Deputy Commissioner

Roanoke: 210 Church Avenue, SW, Room 308, Roanoke, VA 24011-1523, aukwarsj@dbvi.state.va.us, Steve Aukward, Regional Manager

Staunton: 620 Beverly Street, Staunton, VA 24401, austindr@dbvi.state.va.us, Debbie Austin, Regional Manager

Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired: Virginia Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1102 Monticello Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902
Tel: (800) 622-2155 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
(434) 295-5168
(434) 977-0122 (Fax)
www.vdbvi.org

Robert C. Berrang, Deputy Commissioner/General Manager, berranrc@dbvi.state.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To empower blind, visually impaired, and deafblind individuals to achieve their maximum level of employment, education, and personal independence.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Age 18, legally blind.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: 7:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers training, work evaluations, employment (assembly, packaging, sewing, mail-service, stores, contract services) for blind or visually impaired persons.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Richmond: 1535 High Street, Richmond, VA 23220

Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services: Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

1220 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219-1797
Tel: (800) 234-1448
(804) 786-3710
(804) 771-5877 (TDD/TTY)
(804) 371-7959 (Fax)
www.infantva.org/

Mary Ann Discenza, Part C Coordinator, (804) 371-6592, mdiscenza@dmhmrsas.state.va.us
Shirley G. Ricks, Manager of MR Children and Family Services, (804) 786-0992

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To coordinate statewide early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or conditions that could lead to delays.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Virginia's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Virginia Library and Resource Center, Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Instructional materials center (state-designated)
- National Library Service library

395 Azalea Avenue

Richmond, VA 23227-3623

Tel: (800) 552-7015 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(804) 371-3661 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(804) 371-3508 (Fax)

www.vdbvi.org/

Barbara McCarthy, Librarian, (804) 371-3193,
mccartbn@dbvi.state.va.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1960.

County/District where located: Henrico County.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Ages served: 0 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-5:00 PM.

Budget: \$1,300,000.

Clients served annually: 5,800.

Staff: 20.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides specialized instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in Virginia.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books to blind and physically handicapped persons.

Virginia Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

118 North Eighth Street

Richmond, VA 23219

Tel: (804) 643-0309

(804) 643-0311 (Fax)

E-mail: voaeyedocs@aol.com

Bruce B. Keeney, Sr., Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist Virginia optometrists in providing eye care and to promote the profession of optometry in Virginia.

Established: 1902.

County/District where located: City of Richmond.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Annual Directory, newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to eye doctors in Virginia.

Professional Training: Offers continuing education courses for doctors.

Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- State rehabilitation services

401 Azalea Avenue

Richmond, VA 23227

Tel: (804) 371-3151

(804) 371-3320 (TDD/TTY)

(804) 371-3092 (Fax)

www.vrcbvi.org

E-mail: garzadr@dvh.state.va.us

Dennis Garza, Director, Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired, Rehabilitation Services

Gail Kinder, Assistant Director for Instruction, Rehabilitation Services

Carol Koger, Resource Technologies Specialist

Marnie Tidd, Assistant Director for Administration, Rehabilitation Services

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide opportunities for all blind or visually impaired Virginians to achieve personal, social and/or vocational goals. The Center provides extensive rehabilitation and low vision services.

Established: 1970.

County/District where located: Henrico County.

Geographic area served: Virginia. Will accept referrals from other states and foreign countries.

Eligibility requirements: Eye-care practitioner report.

Ages served: 14 and above.

Accessibility: fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Residential rehabilitation services available.

Clients served annually: 270.

Staff: 26 full-time employees. Social worker, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, special educator, occupational therapist, rehabilitation counselor, consulting audiologist, work evaluator, consulting optometrist, low vision specialist, deaf-blind specialist.

Additional information: Facility maintains under same roof two autonomous departments, a low vision center and a rehabilitation unit.

SERVICES OFFERED

Agging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training to older persons.

Computer Training: Offer basic computer operation and adaptive technology, Customer Service Representative Training, Scanners, Notetakers, etc.

Database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing. Braille access systems.

Education Services: Offers adult basic education programs.

Employment: Provides adjustment training and some job-site training.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in orientation and mobility, activities of daily living, rehabilitation counseling.

Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

East Beverly Street
Staunton, VA 24001

Tel: (800) 522-8732 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(540) 332-9000 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(540) 332-9042 (Fax)

www.vsdb.state.va.us/

E-mail: info@vsdb.virginia.gov

Nancy Armstrong, Superintendent,
nancy.armstrong@vsdb.virginia.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist in the provision of essential services for children with deafness or blindness by providing quality day and residential instructional programs to children referred by local school divisions and by serving as a resource for similar children educated throughout Virginia.

Established: 1839.

County/District where located: City of Staunton.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Virginia resident, visually or hearing impaired.

Ages served: 7 to 22.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps, elevators. Not all areas fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories available but day students accepted.

Budget: \$7,000,000.

Clients served annually: 30.

Staff: 28. Instructional Staff, Program Assistants, Houseparents, Support Staff.

Fee structure: None for individuals (local school systems transfer state funding).

Publications: The Virginia Guide, Hand-in-Hand (parent newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessment of all areas of blindness and deafness skills as well as psychological, educational, social evaluation.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance to local school divisions, parents and other agencies.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations and refers for other counseling/social work services.

Education Services: Offers programs for general and remedial skills, academic studies for Grades K through 12. Special short-term program (TEMP) provides 2-week intensive training in all areas of blindness skills for students who are otherwise mainstreamed.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation and training, career and skill counseling, follow-up service.

Health/Medical: Offers audiology therapy, general medical services, speech therapy, occupational and physical therapy. Refers for other health services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, swimming, physical education.

Rehabilitation: Provides remedial education and training in home management, personal management, handwriting, and listening skills, use of video magnifiers and adaptive technology, and transition planning.

Virginia School for the Deaf, Blind and Multi-Disabled at Hampton

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

■ School for the blind

700 Shell Road

Hampton, VA 23661-2299

Tel: (800) 666-0041 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(757) 247-2050 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (1-800-666-0041)

(757) 247-2233 (Fax)

www.vsdbmh.org/

Darlene White, Superintendent, (757) 247-2033,
dwhite@vsdbmh.org
Donna Lawson, Director of Instruction, (757) 247-2058,
(757) 247-2122 (Fax), dlawson@vsdb.virginia.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist in the provision of essential services for children with deafness, blindness, and sensory-impaired multiple disabilities by providing quality day and residential programs to children referred by local school divisions.

Established: 1906.

County/District where located: Hampton.

Geographic area served: Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: 2-22 years of age, deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired, or multiply disabled. Virginia resident referred by local school divisions.

Ages served: 3 to 22.

Hours of operation: Administrative, Operation, Educational Offices Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitory services, 5 days per week.

Clients served annually: 77.

Staff: 135. Educational administrators, nurses, LPNs, OT, PT, speech, music therapist teachers, teacher assistants, administrative assistants.

Fee structure: None.

Publications: Quarterly News Letter "Eagle News".

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides comprehensive diagnostic testing and consultation.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to local school divisions and the community.

Counseling: Offers psychological services, guidance counseling.

Early Intervention: Provides services for infants and their families.

Education Services: Provides traditional high school diploma or certification of completion in chosen program.

Employment: Vocational studies included in curriculum, plus a functional skills program.

Health/Medical: Offers comprehensive health, diagnostic, and therapy services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers swimming, music, art, dances, team sports, participation in Special Olympics.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in home management, personal management, and communications skills.

Virginia Society of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 3268

Glen Allen, VA 23058-3268

Tel: (804) 261-9890

(804) 261-9691 (Fax)

www.vaeyemd.com/

E-mail: vso@vaeyemd.org

Christine Cannaday, Executive Director,
ccannaday@globalweb.net

Virginia Voice for the Print Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

395 Azalea Avenue

Richmond, VA 23227

Tel: (804) 266-2477

(804) 266-2478 (Fax)

www.virginiavoice.org

Nick Morgan, Executive Director,
nbmorgan1@juno.com

Becky Emmett, Program Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: Richmond and Central Virginia and, via network, Charlottesville and Harrisonburg areas.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-11:00 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sun. 2:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Air Mail (newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts selections from more than 120 publications in 91 hours of programming each week. Publications include the Richmond Times-Dispatch, USA Today, The Washington Post, and The Free Lance-Star (Fredericksburg).

Vision Council of America: Better Vision Institute (VCA/BVI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

WVTF Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Radio reading station**

3520 Kingsbury Lane

Roanoke, VA 24014

Tel: (800) 856-8900

(540) 989-8900

(540) 776-2727 (Fax)

www.wvtf.org/RRS-Sunday.htmBen Martin, Director, benm@vt.edu**GENERAL INFORMATION****Mission:** To provide readings from current newspapers and magazines to the print impaired via FM sub-carrier.**Established:** 1979.**County/District where located:** Roanoke County.**Geographic area served:** Within 80-mile radius of Roanoke, southwestern Virginia.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.**SERVICES OFFERED****Reading Services:** Broadcasts on FM sub-carrier, provides current newspapers, magazines and some topical programming directed to people who are print impaired. Publications read include The New York Times, USA Today, Wall Street Journal, Bedford Bulletin, Danville Register & Bee, Fincastle Herald, Lexington News-Gazette, New Castle Record, Salem Times-Register, Smyth County News, Southwest Virginia Enterprise, Roanoke Times, Roanoke Tribune, Vinton Messenger.

Virgin Islands

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Virgin Islands Department of Human Services
(340) 774-0930

Virgin Islands Department of Human
Services: Senior Citizen Affairs
Administration
(340) 692-5950

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Virgin Islands Department of Health:
Infant/Toddler Program
(340) 777-8804

Educational Services

Virgin Islands Department of Education: State
Office of Special Education
(340) 774-0100

Rehabilitation Services

Virgin Islands Department of Human Services
(340) 774-0930

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Virgin Islands Regional Library for the Visually and
Physically Handicapped (NLS)

Virgin Islands Department of Education: State Office of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

44-46 Kongens Gade
Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802
Tel: (340) 774-0100
(340) 779-7153 (Fax)
www.usvi.org/education/index.html
E-mail: education@usvi.org
Kim Gomez, Administrator
Rosemary Gribbon, Vision Therapist
Lyn Reid, Vision Therapist
Belinda West O'Neal, Director of Special Education,
Office of Special Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide all appropriate educational and
related services to eligible students, age 3 to 21.

County/District where located: Charlotte Amalie
District.

Geographic area served: St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant ramps. Transportation
available to and from facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses needs and skill levels of
students.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems,
database software, screen magnification systems,
speech output systems, training for instructors, word
processing.

Counseling: Offers support services to visually
impaired individuals and family members.

Early Intervention: Provides services for children from birth to 3 years.

Education Services: Provides special classes for totally blind students and reader services to eligible students 15 years old and above.

Parent Assistance: Offers family counseling to families of students who are blind or visually impaired.

Virgin Islands Department of Health: Infant/Toddler Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Estate Contant
3500 Richmond, 78 1-2-3
St. Thomas, VI 00802
Tel: (340) 777-8804
(340) 774-2820 (Fax)
E-mail: birthto3usvi@viaccess.net
Rene Joseph Rhymer, Director

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for the Virgin Island's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Virgin Islands Department of Human Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program ■ State rehabilitation services

Knut Hansen Complex
Building A
1303 Hospital Ground
St. Thomas, VI 00802
Tel: (340) 774-0930
(340) 774-3466 (Fax)
www.usvi.org/humanservices/index.html
E-mail: humanservices@usvi.org
Sedonie Halbert, Commissioner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a human service delivery system to meet the needs of low income persons, the elderly, children and families, and the disabled in the territory.
Residential Facilities: On and off island residential care of the disabled.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services, Transportation Services to older persons.
Employment: Assesses and supports clients in their goal to become self-employed.
Information and Referral: Refers to other agencies as necessary.

Rehabilitation: Offers rehabilitation programs and programs for seniors, addressing residential care, social, recreational, prescription medicine, and transportation needs.

Transportation: Offers transportation services for seniors.

Virgin Islands Department of Human Services: Senior Citizen Affairs Administration

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

19 Estate Diamond Fredericksted
St. Croix, VI 00840
Tel: (340) 692-5950
(340) 692-2062 (Fax)
E-mail: brodina@viaccess.net
Eva Williams, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide referral to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Geographic area served: Virgin Islands.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Virgin Islands Regional Library for the Visually and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

3012 Golden Rock
Christiansted
St. Croix, VI 00820
Tel: (340) 772-2250
(340) 772-3545 (Fax)
www.library.gov.vi
E-mail: reglib@viaccess.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: U.S. Virgin Islands.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Washington

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Washington State Department of Services for the Blind

(800) 552-7103

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services: Aging and Disability Services Administration

(800) 422-3263

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services: Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program

(800) 322-2588

Educational Services

Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction: Special Education Operation

(360) 725-6075

Instructional Materials Center

Washington Instructional Resource Center
(360) 696-6321

Rehabilitation Services

Washington State Department of Services for the Blind

(800) 552-7103

School for the Blind

Washington State School for the Blind
(360) 696-6321

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Lilac Blind Foundation

Louis Braille Center

Washington State Department of Services for the Blind

Educational Agencies

Emil Fries School of Piano Tuning and Technology

Kaizen Program for New English Learners with Visual Limitations

Olympic Educational Service: District 114

Special Education Technology Center

Information/Referral Centers

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted

Lilac Blind Foundation

Washington Sensory Disabilities Services

Washington State Department of Services for the Blind

Washington State School for the Blind

Libraries

Washington Talking Book and Braille Library (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted

Lilac Blind Foundation

Lions Low Vision Clinic

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center

Washington State Department of Services for the Blind

Washington State School for the Blind

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Optometric Physicians of Washington

Washington Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

Postsecondary Institutions

University of Washington: Disabled Student Services

Radio Reading Stations

Evergreen Radio Reading Service

Washington Talking Book and Braille Library

Rehabilitation Agencies

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths
and Adults: Northwest Region Office

Lighthouse for the Blind

Lilac Blind Foundation

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake
Blind Rehabilitation Center

Schools for the Blind

Washington State School for the Blind

State Technology Programs

Washington Assistive Technology Alliance

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted (CSBPS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

9709 Third Avenue NE

Suite 100

Seattle, WA 98115-2027

Tel: (800) 458-4888 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(206) 525-5556 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(206) 525-0422 (Fax)

www.csbps.com

E-mail: csbps@csbps.com

June W. Mansfield, President/CEO,

jmansfield@csbps.com

Marcia Appleton, Vice President, Social Services,

mappleton@csbps.com

Mark Mahnke, Vice President, Rehabilitation Services,

mmahnke@csbps.com

Michael Walker, Vice President, Marketing and

Communications, mwalker@csbps.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work with individuals, families, and communities to restore, maintain, and enhance the independence and well-being of people with impaired vision.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: King, Snohomish, and Skagit Counties.

Ages served: 5 to 105.

Hours of operation: Agency: Mon-Fri 8:00 AM-5:00

PMSightConnection: Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Budget: \$1,605,200.

Clients served annually: 1,400.

Staff: 75. Social workers, low vision specialists, rehabilitation teachers, O&M instructors, assistive technology specialists, optometrists.

Fee structure: Free for home-based services. Fees charged for in-office low vision clinic.

Publications: PRISM (Quarterly newsletter), Low Vision Viewpoint (eNewsletter), SightConnection (store catalogue), Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Assistive Products, Community Outreach Programs, Computer Training, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Counseling, Education Services, Health/Medical, In-Home Services, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides assessment and evaluation of functional vision status.

Assistive Products: Distributes adaptive aids for everyday activities. Products for sale on site and online (www.sightconnection.com).

Community Outreach Programs: Offers presentations on vision related topics, and distributes publications for both the general public and health professionals.

Computer Training: Offers demonstrations and information and referral regarding assistive computer technologies. Sells and rents out CCTVs. Optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers hands-on product demonstrations and tutorials, by appointment.

Counseling: Works with clients and families to provide one-on-one counseling, education and support, as well as information and referral.

Education Services: Provides pamphlets on many vision-related topics free of charge as well as an educational series of presentations in Seattle and the surrounding areas.

Health/Medical: Provides training in adaptive diabetic techniques.

In-Home Services: Rehabilitation teachers and social workers meet with individuals in their own homes providing one-on-one training and support.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral by telephone.

Low Vision: Maintains low vision clinics in Seattle, Bremerton and Sedro Woolley. Evaluates functional vision. Prescribes and trains in use of low vision aids and lends out devices on a trial basis before purchase. Closed-circuit television demonstrations and sales.

Orientation and Mobility: Offers instruction in safe and independent travel, including white cane instruction.

Rehabilitation: Offers instruction in safe and independent travel, home and personal management tips and, through the low vision clinic, trains on devices and techniques. Offers independent living services for older blind adults.

Emil Fries School of Piano Tuning and Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

2510 East Evergreen Boulevard

Vancouver, WA 98661-4323

Tel: (360) 693-1511

(360) 693-6891 (Fax)

www.pianotuningschool.org

E-mail: lenleger@pianotuningschool.org

Len Leger, Executive Director,

lenleger@pianotuningschool.org

Donald L. Mitchell, Director of Instruction,

donmi@pianotuningschool.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide specialized quality education leading to successful careers in the field of piano service work for blind and visually impaired individuals.

Established: 1949.

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: High school graduate, GED or equivalent. High school transcript required. Good health, stamina, ability to lift at least 40 pounds.

Normal hearing is essential.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:45 AM-5:00 PM. The school year begins the day after Labor Day and ends at the end of June.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Residential Facilities: Limited space is available in Joyce Evans Hall adjacent to the school. Affordable apartments are available in the local neighborhood. Students are responsible for obtaining their own housing.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: 8-10.

Staff: 4 faculty members. Instructors are Registered Piano Technicians with experience in teaching blind and visually impaired students.

Fee structure: \$18,400 for the two-year program plus \$500 at the beginning of the program for books and tools. The cost of a professional set of tools at the end of the program is approximately \$2,000.

Publications: Brochure and School Catalog.

Additional information: Emil Fries School of Piano Tuning and Technology is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology (ACCSC). The School is approved by the U.S. Department of Education to offer Federal Student Financial Aid.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Offers a two-year training program for careers in piano service work as a tuner/technician.

Library: Maintains braille, tape and print library of mostly technical materials. Has a scanner and computer with JAWS and speech output for accessibility to all print material.

Evergreen Radio Reading Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

2021 9th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98121

Tel: (206) 615-0400

(206) 615-0437 (Fax)

www.wtbbl.org

E-mail: wtbbl@wtbbl.org

Donna Amos, Assistant Manager, donna@wtbbl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: All major populated areas in Washington except for Vancouver.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts articles from magazines, newspapers, old-time radio, interviews, shopping news, and specialty programs. Publications include the Seattle Times, Seattle Post Intelligencer, other local newspapers.

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Northwest Region Office (HKNC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1620 18th Avenue
Suite 201
Seattle, WA 98122
Tel: (206) 324-9120
(206) 324-1133 (TDD/TTY)
(206) 324-9159 (Fax)
www.helenkeller.org/national/
E-mail: nwhknc@juno.com

Dorothy L. Walt, Regional Representative
Taryn Hill, Assistant

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate a national, coordinated effort to meet the social, rehabilitative, and independent living needs of America's deaf-blind population through demonstration of appropriate rehabilitative training techniques, methods, and technologies.

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

Eligibility requirements: Must be legally blind or voice and hearing impaired. May have additional disabilities.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Conducts informal assessment to determine individual service needs of clients who are deaf-blind.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance regarding deaf-blindness to schools and agencies. Assists in developing local services for deaf-blind persons.

Information and Referral: Provides public information about deaf-blindness and refers to community resources. Provides follow-along support. May refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation. Maintains information for National Registry.

Professional Training: Offers professional development and in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Refers to community rehabilitative resources relevant to deaf-blindness. May also refer to Sands Point, NY facility for comprehensive rehabilitation services for deaf-blind persons.

Kaizen Program for New English Learners with Visual Limitations

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

810-A Hiawatha Place South
Seattle, WA 98144

Tel: (206) 784-5619

www.nwlincs.org/kaizen/

E-mail: kaizen_esl@literacynet.org

Robby Barnes, Instructor/Program Director,

kaizen@literacynet.org

Sylvie Kashdan, Instructor/Curriculum Coordinator,

kaizen@literacynet.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help new English learners with visual limitations obtain the competencies and information they need to communicate in English, make decisions, take appropriate action, advocate for themselves, become functionally literate in accessible formats, obtain personally fulfilling, dignified employment, and lead independent lives.

Established: 1998.

Geographic area served: Students: Washington State. Professionals: worldwide.

Eligibility requirements: Student applicants must be U.S. residents, legally blind, and in need of acquiring English oral fluency and braille or large print literacy.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Pacific Time.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Budget: \$24,252.92.

Clients served annually: 15 students; 48 professionals.

Staff: 2. Both staff members serve as instructors; one program director, one curriculum coordinator.

Fee structure: Free instruction to legally blind students. Professional service fees charged to agencies, institutions and individual professionals.

Publications: Notes On The Needs of New English Learners with Visual Limitations (Kashdan & Barnes, 1998); Survey to Gain an Estimate of the Population of Potential New English Learners with Visual Limitations in the Seattle Area and Estimate of How Many Are Currently Receiving Assistance in Learning English and Orientation to American Culture (Kaizen, 2001); Helping People with Visual Limitations Learn English as a Second Language (Kashdan, 1999); Teaching English to Immigrants and Refugees with Visual Limitations: How Do You Do It? (Kashdan, 2002); Symposium Paper: Teaching English as a New Language to Visually Impaired and Blind ESL Students: Problems and Possibilities (Kashdan, Barnes, & Erin Walsh, 2003).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Education Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides one-to-one professional and/or volunteer tutoring in English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and orientation to North American culture, with emphasis on braille and large-print literacy.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation on English as a Second Language (ESL) instructional approaches, methods and resources.

Education Services: Provides ESOL training to blind and visually impaired individuals and to instructors and interested professionals.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals for agencies and individuals seeking services related to teaching or learning English as a second language for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Lighthouse for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2501 South Plum Street
Seattle, WA 98144

Tel: (206) 322-4200
(206) 324-1388 (TDD/TTY)
(206) 329-3397 (Fax)

www.seattlelighthouse.org

George Jacobson, President, gjacobson@seattlelh.com
Paula Hoffman, Director of Rehabilitation Services and External Affairs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create and provide personal independence and economic opportunities for individuals who are blind, deaf-blind, or blind with multiple disabilities through world-class marketing, manufacturing of products, and provision of services to our customers.

Established: 1918.

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: Pacific Northwest, particularly Seattle metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, blind, deaf-blind or blind with multiple disabilities.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM (swing shift in manufacturing).

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, government grants, private donations, workshop sales.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, word processing.

Education Services: Offers Adult Continuing Education (ACE) program for part-time, individualized

and self-paced study. Service Office and Systems (SOS) Program offered to blind adults for advanced computer and customer service training leading to competitive placement.

Employment: Offers vocational evaluation, work-related counseling, competitive placement services, supported employment services, specialized support services for deaf-blind persons, including interpreting department. Provides on-the-job training, employment in manufacturing company, and prevocational training for people who are developmentally disabled.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in orientation and mobility, interpreter training, in-service training when requested by schools, institutions, hospitals, group homes and other facilities.

Recreation: Holds a week-long retreat for deaf-blind persons in August.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills.

Lilac Blind Foundation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Information/referral center

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

North 1212 Howard Street
Spokane, WA 99201

Tel: (800) 422-7893

(509) 328-9116

(509) 328-8965 (Fax)

www.lilacblindfoundation.org/

E-mail: info@lilacblindfoundation.org

Cheryl L. Martin, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide blind and partially sighted people with the training and adaptive aids that enable them to live satisfying lives by restoring, maintaining or increasing their independence.

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Spokane County.

Geographic area served: Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho.

Eligibility requirements: Vision loss.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: In-home independent living training provided throughout 19 county service area.

Budget: \$319311.

Clients served annually: 1500.

Staff: 10. One full-time director and part-time teacher; three full-time teachers; one part-time teacher; one

full-time office manager. Part-time staff includes an accountant, development director, office assistant and computer instructor.

Fee structure: All services are provided at no charge to participants. Participants who can afford their own adaptive aids are asked to purchase their own equipment.

Additional information: The Lilac Blind Foundation does not discriminate against any person needing services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Computer Training to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Job-related data, literary books brochures and pamphlets, mathematics and scientific data, foreign languages, tactile materials (maps, charts, graphs), music.

Computer Training: Provides participants with the same access as sighted people to technology and informational resources. Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Assists with personal adjustment.

Rehabilitation: Offers independent living program.

Lions Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

12727 Northup Way
Suite 25

Bellevue, WA 98005-1917

Tel: (425) 558-4228

(425) 558-3825 (Fax)

www.lowvision.org/

greater_eastside_lions_low_visio.htm

E-mail: lionslowvision@isomedia.com

Glenn Dallas, President

Susan B. Grimm, Clinic Director

Gael E. Bohannon, Office and Resource Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide high quality low vision services and information to the visually impaired.

Established: 1968.

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: Primarily western Washington State.

Eligibility requirements: Regular eye exam records from past year.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Tues.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Clinic on Wednesdays.

Accessibility: Handicap access. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: Includes optometrist (experienced in Low Vision Care) and occupational therapist for on-site and home visits.

Fee structure: Fees based upon EM codes.

Medicare/Medicaid, other insurance or private pay. No patients turned away for inability to pay.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Assessment: Offers evaluation and management of patients age 4 and older.

Community Outreach Programs: Speakers available to address community groups, conferences.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to teachers of visually impaired students, optometrists, physicians.

Information and Referral: Information and referral services regularly available.

Low Vision: Low vision eye evaluations provided to each patient. Wide variety of optical devices presented, loaned and ordered for purchase. Devices available only in conjunction with low vision evaluation.

Parent Assistance: Offers financial needs assessment. Clinic seeks help of local Lions Clubs to defray costs according to need.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in adult daily living skills and use of low vision devices on site and at home by occupational therapist.

Support Groups: Hold bi-monthly low vision support group meetings facilitated by social worker.

Louis Braille Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

320 Dayton Street

Suite 125

Edmonds, WA 98020

Tel: (425) 776-4042 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(425) 778-2384 (Fax)

www.louisbraillecenter.org

E-mail: lbc@louisbraillecenter.org

Carolyn Meyer, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist people who are blind or visually impaired through education, transcription of print materials into braille, motivation and inspiration.

Established: 1991.

County/District where located: Snohomish County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM., evenings and weekends by appointment.

Accessibility: ADA accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Client fees, foundation grants, private donations, public funds.

Staff: Volunteer staff, some contract employees.

Fee structure: Varies depending on service.

Publications: Second Saturday Club (monthly newsletter published from 2000-2003), Braille Camp (annual newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction and workshops for blind or sighted people of all ages.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille).

Types of content: Braille books feature biographies of Louis Braille, resources for learning braille, the writings of Helen Keller, books of wisdom and inspiration, poetry, and books for children.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Education Services: Provides after-school tutoring for children. Develops educational programs for blind/visually impaired children.

Library: Maintains lending library of braille books for enrolled children.

Parent Assistance: Provides family support services.

Recreation: Offers social activities for children who are blind/visually impaired, Second Saturday Club for children who are blind/visually impaired and families.

Olympic Educational Service: District 114

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

105 National Avenue North

Bremerton, WA 98312

Tel: (360) 479-0993

(360) 478-6869 (Fax)

www.oesd.wednet.edu

Carol Pacheco, Special Services Director, (360) 478-6886, dknesal@oesd.wednet.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to the local school districts, to assist the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education in the performance of their duties, and to promote equity in educational opportunity for students throughout the region.

County/District where located: Kitsap.

Geographic area served: Olympic Peninsula, Washington State.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides, in its Special Education Resources Library, instructional materials and aids in the form of videocassettes, books, software, audio, support equipment, and curriculum kits in the form of instructional and testing aids (videos, books, toys, test forms).

Optometric Physicians of Washington

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

555 116th Avenue NE

Suite 166

Bellevue, WA 98004-5205

Tel: (425) 455-0874

(425) 646-9646 (Fax)

www.eyes.org/

E-mail: info@eyes.org

Judy Balzer, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: Washington.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Fee structure: Medicare.

Publications: Newsletter (6 times a year).

Special Education Technology Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

400 East University Way

Ellensburg, WA 98926

Tel: (509) 963-3350

(509) 963-3355 (TDD/TTY)

(509) 963-3355 (Fax)

www.cwu.edu/~setc/

Ann G. Black, Director, blacka@cwu.edu

Jerry J. Connolly, Technology Specialist, connolly@cwu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Kittitas County.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers training on assistive technology to school districts and parents.

Education Services: Assists school districts and parents with the special technology needs of children with disabilities. Maintains lending library of hardware and software materials that districts use to evaluate long-term benefits for specific children.

University of Washington: Disabled Student Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

448 Schmitz Hall

Box 355839

Seattle, WA 98195

Tel: (206) 543-8925 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(206) 616-8379 (Fax)

[www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/](http://www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Disabled_Student.html)

Disabled_Student.html

E-mail: uwdss@u.washington.edu

Dyane M. Haynes, Director, dyane@u.washington.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired students at the university.

Publications: Access Guide for Persons with Disabilities (showing classroom access, elevator locations, ramps, parking, and restrooms), Campus Mobility Route Map, and a quarterly newsletter, as well as other publications.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print).

Education Services: Coordinates academic accommodations for enrolled students with documented disabilities.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

■ Rehabilitation agency

VA Puget Sound Health Care System

9600 Veterans Drive, SW

Building 5 (112-BRC)

Tacoma, WA 98493

Tel: (800) 329-8387

(253) 583-1299

(253) 589-4112 (Fax)

Joe Kurina, Acting Director

Page Howard, Social Worker

Idella Whitfield-Stith, Nurse Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide in-patient and out-patient blind rehabilitation services to eligible U.S. veterans. In-patient and out-patient services are located in Tacoma, WA, and out-patient services are available in Seattle, WA.

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Pierce County.

Geographic area served: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

Eligibility requirements: Honorable discharge from US military and legal blindness or visual impairment. Enrollment in VA system.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Instructional hours: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible. Wheelchair ramps, braille signage.

Residential Facilities: 15-bed in-patient program with dormitory style rooms, 24-hour nursing care and meals.

Staff: Blind rehabilitation specialists, including O&M, rehabilitation teaching, low vision and manual skills instructors.

Fee structure: Dependent upon VA eligibility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Blind rehabilitation assessment provided.

Community Outreach Programs: Blind Rehabilitation Outreach Service.

Computer Training: Database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers group and individual counseling.

Health/Medical: Offers general medical and related services such as eye evaluations, medical treatments as related to blind rehabilitation.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Offers full program of blind rehabilitation including orientation and mobility, activities of daily living, low vision training, manual skills. Serves referral applicants from VA centers and clinics in service area. Provides rehabilitation services for elderly veterans.

Washington Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

2033 6th Avenue

Suite 1100

Seattle, WA 98121

Tel: (800) 552-0612

(206) 441-9762

(206) 441-5863 (Fax)

www.eyecademy.org/

E-mail: info@eyecademy.org

Kory A. Diemert, Executive Director, kad@wsma.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: King County.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: In Focus.

Washington Assistive Technology Alliance

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State technology program**

University of Washington
Center for Technology and Disability Studies
CHDD South Building, Room 104

Box 357920

Seattle, WA 98195-7920

Tel: (800) 214-7920 (Information and Referral)

(206) 685-4181

(800) 841-4181 (TDD/TTY)

(206) 543-4799 (Fax)

www.wata.org

E-mail: uwat@u.washington.edu

Debbie Cook, Project Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Connects individuals with resources who provide consultation, advocacy, and legal representation for these and other AT issues.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers technical consultation and training to state government, higher education, and other entities regarding strategic planning for accessibility of information technology systems, including hardware/software procurement and design of information systems; reasonable accommodation, and program access.

Information and Referral: Provides information about assistive technology and referrals to funding sources.

Washington Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Instructional materials center (state-designated)**

Washington State School for the Blind

2310 East 13th Street

Vancouver, WA 98661-4120

Tel: (360) 696-6321

(360) 737-2120 (Fax)

www.wssb.wa.gov

E-mail: irc@wssb.wa.gov

Colleen F. Lines, Manager, irc@wssb.wa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support and advocate for the educational needs of students who are blind or visually impaired in the state of Washington.

Established: 1976.

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: Washington State.

Eligibility requirements: Students with visual impairments who are enrolled in a formal educational program.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is totally accessible, state-of-the-art solar-powered building built in 2003.

Budget: \$220,000.

Clients served annually: 1300.

Staff: 2.3. Manager, braille production specialist, and warehouseman.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Textbooks.

Education Services: Produces alternate format educational materials including textbooks.

Washington Sensory Disabilities Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Information/referral center**

1224 Harris Avenue

Suite 309

Bellingham, WA 98225

Tel: (800) 572-7000 (Voice and TDD/TTY) (This is the central intake phone for the Sensory Disabilities Services project located at Puget Sound Educational Service District in Burien, WA.)

(360) 647-5020 (This is the phone number for the Washington State Education Consultant on Visual Impairment/Blindness.)

(360) 647-2608 (Fax)

www.wsdsonline.org

Gary Snyder, State Coordinator of Visual Impairment/Blindness Services,
GarySnyder_WSDS@comcast.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide information, training, technical assistance and resources to families and educators statewide regarding individuals from birth to age 21 with sensory disabilities—students who are deaf, hard of hearing, visually impaired, blind, or deaf-blind.

Established: 1999.

County/District where located: Whatcom County, Washington State.

Geographic area served: State of Washington - 296 school districts; State School for the Blind; State School for the Deaf.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with a visual impairment that, even with correction, adversely affects their educational performance and requires specially designed instruction. Students with visual impairment or blindness might have other conditions such as cerebral palsy or developmental delay that require additional educational adaptations. These individuals often require low vision aids such as large print books, magnifiers, braille, adapted computer access, training in efficient use of low vision, or orientation and mobility instruction.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Mon-Fri.

Accessibility: Offices and staff are located in various sites all over the state. All offices are accessible.

Clients served annually: Specific students served - approximately 200.

Staff: Project Director, State Coordinators of Visual Impairment/Blindness Services and Deaf/HH Services; Deaf-Blind Consultants; Deaf-Blind Project Director; Shared Reading Video Outreach Program Manager, technical support person and program interpreter/facilitators; Instructional Resource Center Director; Support staff.

Fee structure: No cost to the school districts for consultation; minimal fee for some trainings.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultations for individual children.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referrals to appropriate educational services for children and youth with sensory disabilities.

Library: Maintains a lending library of educational and professional materials.

Parent Assistance: Provides in-service training for families and service providers.

Washington State Department of Services for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Independent living program
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- State rehabilitation services

402 Legion Way, SE
Suite 100

Olympia, WA 98504-0933

Tel: (800) 552-7103

(360) 586-1224 (8:00 AM-5:00 PM.)

(360) 764-4051 (TDD/TTY)

(360) 586-7627 (Fax)

www.dsb.wa.gov/

Bill Palmer, Executive Director, bilpalmer@dsb.wa.gov
Peter Campbell, Business Manager,
petcampbell@dsb.wa.gov

Debbie Cook, Consultant, debcook@dsb.wa.gov

Lou Oma Durand, Deputy Director,
loudurand@dsb.wa.gov

Alan Garrels, Child and Family Program Manager,
alagarrels@dsb.wa.gov

J. Craig Monaghan, Quality Assurance and Technology
Manager, cramonaghan@dsb.wa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To open doors of opportunity for individuals who are blind and visually impaired to pursue their dreams, determine their goals, develop their skills and abilities, and participate socially and economically in the community.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Thurston County.

Geographic area served: Washington.

Eligibility requirements: Per federal law.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA compliant.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides literacy instruction.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Community Outreach Programs: Includes an outreach program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers technical assistance services for a fee.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention for children and families.

Employment: Offers vocational counseling.

Information and Referral: Refers to other agencies.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Counsels parents.

Preschool: Includes a preschool program.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services.

Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

FIELD OFFICES

Kennewick: Edith Bishel Center, 628 North Arthur, Kennewick, WA 99336

Seattle: 3411 South Alaska St, Seattle, WA 98118-1531, lauhartman@dsb.wa.gov

Spokane: 510 West Riverside, Room 209, Spokane, WA 99201, bonelliot@dsb.wa.gov

Tacoma: 949 Market Street, Suite 508, Tacoma, WA 98402, georiddle@dsb.wa.gov

Vancouver: 2214 East 13th Street, Suite 208, Vancouver, WA 98661-4120, gaycole@dsb.wa.gov

Yakima: 1712 South 16th Street, Yakima, WA 98902-5713, katcarner@dsb.wa.gov

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services: Aging and Disability Services Administration

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

P.O. Box 45600

Olympia, WA 98504-5600

Tel: (800) 422-3263 (Information & Referral In State)

(360) 725-2300 (Mail to: DSHS/ADSA Administration)

(360) 493-2637 (TDD/TTY)

www.aasa.dshs.wa.gov

DSHS ADSA, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help adults and older people with functional disabilities to secure preferred long-term care services and quality of life.

County/District where located: Thurston County.

Geographic area served: Washington.

Eligibility requirements: Elderly, disabled, blind, visually impaired for eligibility to some services.

Accessibility: Services are provided at many locations throughout the state.

Residential Facilities: Contracts for nursing home, adult family home, adult residential care. For eligible individuals.

Fee structure: Depends on service.

Publications: Brochures about aging, disability, caregiving.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Information and Referral to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses clients for eligibility for long-term care services and Medicaid.

Information and Referral: Contracts with Area Agencies on Aging to provide information related to long-term care services. See www.aasa.dshs.wa.gov for list of information and assistance locations.

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services: Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

1115 Washington Street, SE

Olympia, WA 98504-5201

Tel: (800) 322-2588 (Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies parental information line, toll-free in Washington only.)

(360) 902-8488

(360) 902-7864 (TDD/TTY)

(360) 902-8497 (Fax)

www1.dshs.wa.gov/iteip

E-mail: loercsk@dshs.wa.gov

Sandy Morris, Program Director, (360) 902-8490, loercsk@dshs.wa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To meet the developmental needs of each eligible child from birth to three and the needs of the family related to enhancing the child's development.

County/District where located: Thurston County.

Geographic area served: Washington.

Eligibility requirements: To be eligible for ITEIP services, a child must have a 25% delay or show a 1.5 standard deviation below his or her age in one or more developmental areas.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM PST.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Washington's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction: Special Education Operation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

Old Capitol Building

Olympia, WA 98504-7200

Tel: (360) 725-6075

(360) 586-0126 (TDD/TTY)

(360) 586-0247 (Fax)

www.k12.wa.us/

E-mail: speced@ospi.wednet.edu

Douglas Gill, Director, dgill@ospi.wednet.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase the performance of special education students in local school district programs and activities.

Geographic area served: Washington State.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Implements the IDEA amendments of 1997 in a reasonable and responsible manner.

Washington State School for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- School for the blind

2214 East 13th Street

Vancouver, WA 98661-4120

Tel: (360) 696-6321 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(360) 696-6321 (TDD/TTY)

(360) 696-6321 (TDD/TTY)

(360) 737-2120 (Fax)

www.wssb.wa.gov

E-mail: admin@wssb.wa.gov

Dean O. Stenehjem, Superintendent,

dean.stenehjem@wssb.wa.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide specialized quality educational services to visually impaired youths ages birth to 21 within the state of Washington.

Established: 1886.

County/District where located: Clark County.

Geographic area served: Washington.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired or blind.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: ADA Accessible.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities for students.

Staff: 80 full-time employees.

Fee structure: Washington students free. Out-of-state students accepted on tuition basis.

Publications: Lions Roar Newsletter published quarterly.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Runs a preschool outreach program.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation visits to district.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention programs and itinerant services.

Education Services: Offers a fully accredited K-12 academic program. Provides statewide workshops and training and itinerant services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training services.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living skills.

Washington Talking Book and Braille Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library
- Radio reading station

2021 9th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98121-2783

Tel: (800) 542-0866 (Toll free in Washington)

(206) 615-0400

(206) 615-0418 (TDD/TTY)

(206) 615-0437 (Fax)

www.wtbbl.org

E-mail: wtbbl@wtbbl.org

Gloria J. Leonard, Director, (206) 386-1255, (206)

615-0441 (Fax), gloria.leonard@spl.org

Donna K. Amos, Assistant Manager, Machine Lending

Information, (206) 615-0410, Donna@wtbbl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a free public library service to individuals with disabilities in Washington State.

Established: 1931.

County/District where located: King County.

Geographic area served: Washington.

Eligibility requirements: Children and adults who are legally blind, deaf-blind, visually impaired (cannot easily read conventional-size print), physically disabled (cannot comfortably hold books or turn pages), or learning disabled due to organic dysfunction.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Completely accessible.

Budget: \$1,350,000.

Clients served annually: 10,500.

Staff: 22 full-time employees. Librarians, readers' advisors, shipping clerks, clerical, broadcasters.

Fee structure: Free Service.

Publications: Newsletter: Reading Matters.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Reaches out to caregivers, medical professionals, social workers, librarians, consumer groups.

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, audiocassettes, and braille books for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Parent Assistance: Has parenting collection of books and videos. Children's room with adaptive toys.

Reading Services: Newspapers (Post Intelligencer and Seattle Times) and various materials read.

West Virginia

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services
(304) 558-3317

West Virginia Department of Education and
the Arts: Division of Rehabilitation Services
(800) 642-3021

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

West Virginia Birth to Three
(800) 642-8522

Educational Services

West Virginia Department of Education: Office
of Special Education
(800) 642-8541

Instructional Materials Center

West Virginia Instructional Resource Center
(304) 822-4891

Rehabilitation Services

West Virginia Department of Education and
the Arts: Division of Rehabilitation Services
(800) 642-3021

School for the Blind

West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the
Blind
(304) 822-4800

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind
International Christian Braille Mission
West Virginia Society for the Blind and Severely
Disabled

Libraries

Ohio County Public Library: Services for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped (NLS)
Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Cabell County Public Library (NLS)
Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
Parkersburg and Wood County Public Library (NLS)
Special Services, West Virginia Library Commission
(NLS)
West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (NLS)

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Appalachian Center for Vision Rehabilitation
Seeing Hand Association

Membership Organizations (Professional)

West Virginia Academy of Ophthalmology
West Virginia Optometric Association

National Organizations

American Foundation for the Blind Technology and
Employment Center at Huntington

Rehabilitation Agencies

Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind
Seeing Hand Association
West Virginia Rehabilitation Center
West Virginia Society for the Blind and Severely
Disabled

Schools for the Blind

West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

State Technology Programs

West Virginia Assistive Technology Systems

American Foundation for the Blind: Technology and Employment Center at Huntington (AFB TECH)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Appalachian Center for Vision Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

WVU Eye Institute
One Stadium Drive
P.O. Box 9193
Morgantown, WV 26506
Tel: (800) 842-3627 (General clinic access number)
(304) 598-4820
www.hsc.wvu.edu/som/eye

John V. Linberg, Chairman, Department of
Ophthalmology, Coordinator of Low Vision Clinic
William D. Smith, Director of the Appalachian Center
for Vision Rehabilitation, (304) 598-6965

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve persons with vision problems that cannot be restored with surgery, medications, conventional spectacles, or contacts. To maximize remaining visual function to improve independence, employment, education, and overall quality of life.

Established: 2001.

County/District where located: Monongalia County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited, we provide services primarily to the people of Appalachia; however, we see patients from across the United States and Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Referral is needed from primary eye care professional or rehabilitation agency.

Ages served: 0 to 105.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Clients served annually: 800.

Staff: 4. Ophthalmologists, low vision optometrist, social workers, occupational therapists, and certified ophthalmic technicians.

Fee structure: Major medical and commercial insurances are accepted. An indigent care fund is also available.

Additional information: Outreach clinics throughout the state of WV are available. Please contact the center for more information and areas served.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Audiodescription, Information and Referral, Low Vision Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides comprehensive low vision examinations and rehabilitation. Devices and rehabilitation strategies are provided.

Audiodescription: Provides audiodescription services.

Information and Referral: Refers to associated Children's Vision Rehabilitation Project for low vision services for school-aged children. Referrals are also made to state and local agencies for the blind and visually impaired for both the elderly and vocational rehabilitation. Funding of low vision devices is also sought.

Low Vision: Provides comprehensive low vision examinations and rehabilitation for all groups.

Professional Training: Offers residency in ophthalmology and certification for ophthalmic technicians.

Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

38 Washington Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701
Tel: (304) 522-6991
(304) 522-6924 (Fax)
www.cwab.org/
E-mail: cwabadm@cabellwayne.org

Paul Slone, Executive Director
Jerry Crabtree, Media and Marketing Manager,
cwabmeda@cabellwayne.org
Nancy Henderson, Orientation and Mobility,
cwabom@cabellwayne.org
Nancy McKenzie, Rehabilitation Teacher,
cwabrehb@cabellwayne.org
Kermit Nance, Computer Instruction & Training,
cwabinst@cabellwayne.org
Toni Walls, In-Home Services,
cwabinhm@cabellwayne.org
Dianna Ward, Adaptive Technologist,
cwabtech@cabellwayne.org
Linda Worthy, Recreation Coordinator,
cwabrec@cabellwayne.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and advocate the economic, educational, and social welfare of blind and visually impaired people of all ages so that they can maintain a life style comparable to other members of society.

Established: 1975.

County/District where located: Cabell County.

Geographic area served: Cabell and Wayne Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Acuity of 20/100 in best eye.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Large print signs, braille signage, no steps or curbs. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 14 full-time, 1 part-time. Uses volunteers.

Fee structure: All services are free.

Publications: The Guide Page (monthly magazine), brochure, consumer handbook.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Provides independent living evaluation.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print). **Types of content:** Self-help and instructional materials and agency literature.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers public information and education programs to schools, civic groups and media. Participates in school and community vision screening programs. Works with school systems to provide orientation and mobility, rehabilitation and technical consultation. Seminars, conferences.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, Internet, Windows.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation and technical assistance.

Counseling: Offers case finding, assessment, peer counseling, information and referral, support groups.

Early Intervention: Identifies and refers to appropriate service.

Employment: Provides training in telemarketing and telecommunications.

Information and Referral: Provides information about other area agencies.

Library: Maintains a library of large-print book, audio descriptive videos, and some talking books.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Orientation and mobility and recreation staff work with parents.

Recreation: Beep baseball, bowling, dancing, golf, hiking, parties and picnics, theater and concerts, and trips, crafts, piano lessons.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management skills, activities of daily living, sensory development, and training in use of devices and appliances. Services provided in home and community as appropriate. Provides rehabilitation services for senior citizens.

Support Groups: Offers support groups.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: East Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Maryland.

International Christian Braille Mission

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

5312 MacCorkle Avenue SW

PMB 277

South Charleston, WV 25309-1012

Tel: (304) 768-8876

(304) 768-6492 (Fax)

Michael Ray Smith, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1957.

Geographic area served: International.

Eligibility requirements: Blind, visually impaired, or physically challenged.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 2 full-time staff, 2 part-time staff and 1 part-time volunteer.

Fee structure: No fee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Christian materials.

Library: Maintains a cassette tape lending library of Christian materials.

Ohio County Public Library: Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

52 16th Street

Wheeling, WV 26003-3696

Tel: (304) 232-0244

(304) 232-6848 (Fax)

www.wheeling.weirton.lib.wv.us/main/index.htm

Lori Nicholson, Librarian, lnicholson@hotmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Ohio County.

Geographic area served: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, and Wetzel Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Seeing Hand Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency

750 Main Street

Wheeling, WV 26003-2571

Tel: (304) 232-4810

E-mail: seehand@ovis.net

Alvin Schafer, President/CEO,

alvin@seeinghandassociation.com

Joyce Britt, Rehabilitation Specialist,

joyce@seeinghandassociation.com

Bob Hicks, Computer Instructor,

bob@seeinghandassociation.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist all ages of visually impaired persons in receiving services necessary for self-sufficiency and independence.

Established: 1935.

County/District where located: Ohio.

Geographic area served: West Virginia, Northern Panhandle and Eastern Ohio.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired.

Ages served: 12 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramps and braille signage.

Budget: \$350,000.

Clients served annually: 500.

Staff: 4.

Fee structure: Sliding scale.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Support Groups to older persons.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in braille.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Employment: Offers workshops in chair caning, rug weavings, subcontract work, crafts. Employment Network for Ticket-to-Work program.

Low Vision: Offers low vision services in cooperation with the WVU Eye Institute.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides assessment and training in travel skills, orientation to home and workplace.

Recreation: Holds picnics, Christmas parties, bowling league and various leisure time activities.

Support Groups: Holds separate groups for visually impaired individuals and family members/significant others.

Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Cabell County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

455 Ninth Street Plaza

Huntington, WV 25701

Tel: (304) 528-5700

(304) 528-5701 (Fax)

www.cabell.lib.wv.us/index.html

E-mail: library@cabell.lib.wv.us

Vicky L. Woods, Talking Book Coordinator,

vwoods@cabell.lib.wv.us

Mary Lou Pratt, Coordinator of Adult Services,

mpratt@cabell.lib.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide library materials and information to the area's residents, to meet their personal, professional, and educational needs.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Cabell County.

Geographic area served: Cabell, Mason, Mingo, Putnam, and Wayne Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp, braille signage for elevators and restrooms.

Staff: 1 full-time coordinator, 1 part-time supervisor, 1 part-time volunteer.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Information and Referral: Has five full-time staff members in a 3-state-area Information and Referral Department.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Provides talking book cassette tapes, low vision aids, and reference materials for people over the age of 55.

Reading Services: Offers Newslines, which allows persons to listen to text of four newspapers.

Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Parkersburg and Wood County Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

3100 Emerson Avenue
Parkersburg, WV 26104-2414
Tel: (304) 420-4587
(304) 420-4589 (Fax)
www.park.lib.wv.us

Michael C. Hickman, Coordinator of Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped,
hickmanm@hp9k.park.lib.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1969.

County/District where located: Wood County.

Geographic area served: Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wirt, and Wood Counties.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with visual and physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Clients served annually: 400.

Staff: 1. Uses volunteers in addition to staff.

Fee structure: All services are free to all eligible library patrons.

Publications: Newsletter.

Additional information: Subregional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services to older persons.

Library: Provides talking books, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons. Also orders braille and other library materials for the visually impaired and physically handicapped.

Special Services, West Virginia Library Commission

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

Cultural Center
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25305
Tel: (800) 642-8674 (In-state only)
(304) 558-4061
(304) 558-6016 (Fax)
www.librarycommission.lib.wv.us
E-mail: talkbks@wvlc.lib.wv.us

Donna B. Calvert, Director, Special Services, Special Services - Blind/Physically Handicapped: West Virginia Library Commission,
calvertd@wvlc.lib.wv.us

J.D. Waggoner, Executive Secretary, Administrative Services, West Virginia Library Commission:
Administrative Services, (304) 558-2041,
waggoner@wvlc.lib.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve library needs of blind and physically handicapped state residents. Library commission seeks to provide equal access to materials in various formats.

County/District where located: Kanawha County.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical and visual impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible building.

Clients served annually: 3,000.

Staff: 5. Uses volunteers and senior workers.

Fee structure: Free.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: Newslines.

AFFILIATE OFFICES

Huntington: Cabell County Public Library, Talking Book Program, 455 Ninth Street Plaza, Huntington, WV 25701

Parkersburg: Parkersburg and Wood County Public Library, 3100 Emerson Avenue, Parkersburg, WV 26101

Romney: West Virginia School for the Blind, 301 E. Main Street, Romney, WV 26757

Wheeling: Ohio County Public Library, 52 16th Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Augusta Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Georgia.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center (EBRC)

See Connecticut.

West Virginia Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 2982
 Charleston, WV 25338-2982
 Tel: (304) 343-5842
 (304) 344-4456 (Fax)
www.wveyemed.org

Nancy S. Tonkin, Executive Director,
nancy.tonkin@wvmtg.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

West Virginia Assistive Technology Systems

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

CED
 Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center
 955 Hartman Run Road
 Morgantown, WV 26505
 Tel: (304) 293-4692 (Voice and TDD/TTY)
 (304) 293-7294 (Fax)
www.uclid.org:8080/uclid/public/uclid-service-details.tdf?ServiceRequestStatusCode=3&ServiceID=724
 Jack Stewart, Project Manager, jcstewart@hsc.wvu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase awareness of and accessibility to assistive technology.

Established: 1992.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Works to change policies, regulations and practices to help connect people to the AT they need.

Assistive Products: Maintains sites for free demonstrations of assistive technology devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers training and technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, their families and those involved in providing assistive technology devices and services.

Financial Assistance: Assists people in obtaining assistive technology by providing information about sources of funding.

Information and Referral: Maintains toll-free information hotlines. Increases public awareness about assistive technology through fact sheets, exhibits, loan libraries, news releases, demonstrations, and the WVATS quarterly newsletter.

West Virginia Birth to Three

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Part C early intervention agency

Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health
 350 Capitol Street, Room 427
 Charleston, WV 25301-3714
 Tel: (800) 642-8522 (In-state only.)
 (304) 558-5388
 (304) 558-5388 (TDD/TTY)
 (304) 558-4984 (Fax)
www.wvdhhr.org/birth23/
 E-mail: wvbtt@wvdhhr.org

Janet Lucas, Director of Children's Specialty Care
 Pamela G. Roush, Part C Director,
pamroush@wvdhhr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and provide appropriate health and human services for the people of West Virginia in order to improve their quality of life and to make family-centered care a reality for children with neurodevelopmental and related disabilities.

County/District where located: Kanawha County.

Eligibility requirements: Infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or conditions that could lead to delays.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides counseling, home visits, social work.

Early Intervention: Lead agency for West Virginia's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Health/Medical: Offers medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes, health and vision services, nursing, nutrition and psychological services.

Parent Assistance: Provides family training, counseling and home visits.

Professional Training: Offers internships, fellowships, outreach training.

Rehabilitation: Provides special instruction, physical therapy, speech/language pathology, training in the use of assistive devices and technical services.

West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State unit on aging

1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
 Holly Grove - Building 10
 Charleston, WV 25305
 Tel: (304) 558-3317
 (304) 558-0004 (Fax)
www.state.wv.us/seniorservices
 E-mail: lrodgers@boss.state.wv.us

Ann M. Stottlemeyer, Commissioner,
astottlemeyer@boss.state.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be faithful stewards of the federal and state monies entrusted to our care for the provision of senior services throughout West Virginia.

County/District where located: Kanawha County.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Ages served: 55 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts: Division of Rehabilitation Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Independent living program

■ State rehabilitation services

P.O. Box 50890

State Capitol Complex

Charleston, WV 25305-0890

Tel: (800) 642-3021

(304) 766-4891

(304) 766-4970 (TDD/TTY)

(304) 766-4690 (Fax)

www.wvdrs.org/

E-mail: tracyc@mail.drs.state.wv.us

Janice Holland, Director

Sheri L. Koch, Program Supervisor, (304) 766-4799,

sherik@mail.drs.state.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable and empower individuals with disabilities to work and to live independently.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Must have a physical and/or mental disability that affects ability to work; be able to get and keep a job after receiving services; and must need services in order to get and keep a job.

Accessibility: Accessible facilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Administers psychometric testing, work sample evaluation, behavior observations, job transferability skills, and career exploration. Provides comprehensive evaluation or specialty evaluation.

Provides optometric evaluation to determine how much sight the person has and how best to enhance it.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides training in reading and writing braille.

Computer Training: Provides training in the use of computers with voice output. Speech output systems.

Employment: Provides vocational training and counseling, training in the use of assistive technology, environmental modifications, job modifications, and job placement.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services for people who are blind or visually impaired in West Virginia.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in life skills, including independent living and travel and reading and writing braille, as well as using computers with voice output. Provides independent living services for persons age 55 and older.

West Virginia Department of Education: Office of Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East

State Capitol, Building 6, Room 304

Charleston, WV 25305

Tel: (800) 642-8541 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(304) 558-2696

(304) 558-3741 (Fax)

www.wvde.state.wv.us/ose/

Lynn Boyer, Executive Director,

lboyer@access.k12.wv.us

Robin Bolling, Assistant Director,

rbolling@access.k12.wv.us

Annette Carey, Deaf-Blind Project, acarey@

access.k12.wv.us

Mary Nunn, Assistant Director,

mnunn@access.k12.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To positively affect the lives of exceptional children by developing and enhancing the capacity of agencies through positive protective leadership and collaborative partnerships, and by assisting local school districts and other public agencies in providing high quality programs and services.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation on public education of blind or visually impaired students in local schools.

Education Services: Administers supplemental state funds provided for the blind or visually impaired children in local schools. Provides administrative structure for statewide management of special education programs, services, and resources.

West Virginia Instructional Resource Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

301 East Main Street

Romney, WV 26757

Tel: (304) 822-4891

www.66.70.239.240/IRC.htm

Donna See, Director, dbsee@access.k12.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Hampshire County.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind, deaf-blind, partially sighted West Virginia students in public schools, private schools, vocational-technical schools/institutes, and preschools. Any visually handicapped student pursuing formal education at less than college levels who are registered with WVIRC.

Fee structure: There is no cost for the materials or services provided by the center to their registered students.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Repairs and maintains equipment loaned from the center.

Education Services: Maintains an inventory of braille books, large type books, educational aids and equipment, distributes materials for use by blind, deaf-blind, and partially sighted students, determines sources for material and equipment that are not available from WVIRC but are available for purchase or loan, and administers the American Printing House for the Blind Federal Quota Program.

(304) 766-4970 (Fax)

www.wvdrs.org

Janice Holland, Director, janiceh@mail.drs.state.wv.us

Sidney B. Boyce, Coordinator, Low Vision Clinic

Thomas E. Griffith, O.D., Low Vision Clinician

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable and empower individuals with disabilities to work and live independently.

County/District where located: Kanawha County.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Current ophthalmological report; state residence.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:45 PM.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories for students.

Staff: Ophthalmologist, optometrist, low vision specialist/assistant, rehabilitation counselor, audiologist, optician, social worker, O&M instructor, rehabilitation teacher, special educator, occupational therapist, psychologist/counselor.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Offers intensive training to students who need to improve skills or to prepare for employment, GED or ACT tests.

Employment: Offers accredited training programs.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Provides individual and group activities, including theater, trips, swimming, bowling.

Rehabilitation: Offers training in physical rehabilitation, orientation and mobility, daily living skills.

West Virginia Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

815 Quarrier Street

Suite 345

Charleston, WV 25301-2616

Tel: (304) 345-4710

(304) 346-6416 (Fax)

www.wvoa.com

E-mail: rprice0851@aol.com

Roger Price, Executive Director, rprice0851@aol.com

West Virginia Rehabilitation Center

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

P.O. Box 1004

Institute, WV 25112-1004

Tel: (800) 642-3021

(304) 766-4600

West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ National Library Service library

■ School for the blind

301 East Main Street

Romney, WV 26757

Tel: (304) 822-4800

(304) 822-3370 (Fax)

www.66.70.239.240/

E-mail: jkmcbriid@access.k12.wv.us

Jane K. McBride, Superintendent,

jkmcbriid@access.k12.wv.us

Sharon Eglinger, Director of Student Living, (304) 822-4885

Cynthia S. Johnson, Librarian, (304) 882-4894, (304)

822-4896 (Fax), cjohnsonwv@hotmail.com

Connie Newhouse, Principal, School for the Blind, (304)

822-4880, cnewhous@access.k12.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve blind, visually impaired, deaf, or deaf-blind children of West Virginia.

Established: 1870.

County/District where located: Hampshire County.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: West Virginia resident, ages birth to 21, blind, visually impaired, deaf, or deaf-blind.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential school.

Clients served annually: Approximately 650 statewide.

Staff: 217. Professional and ancillary.

Fee structure: There is no charge to any blind or visually impaired, or deaf or hearing impaired student, ages 0 - 21 of West Virginia.

Publications: Regular newsletters published by schools.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Maintains an inventory of braille books, large type books, educational aids and equipment.

Determine sources for material and equipment that are not available from WVIRC but are available for purchase or loan for legally blind, deaf-blind, partially sighted West Virginia students in public schools, private schools, vocational-technical schools/institutes, and preschools.

Assistive Products: Repairs and maintains equipment loaned from the West Virginia Instructional Resource Center.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers braille instruction.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations, psychological testing.

Early Intervention: Through an outreach program, provides assessment statewide in homes for children age birth to five.

Education Services: Offers academic programs for preschool, grades K-12 and residential as well as other support services. Provides instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired in West Virginia.

Employment: Some prevocational training provided.

Health/Medical: Offers audiology therapy, speech therapy.

Library: Operates the NLS subregional library to provide books in audiocassettes, discs, braille and large print for the people who are blind or physically handicapped in Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, and Pendleton counties.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship and fieldwork placement training programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides instruction in braille, handwriting, orientation and mobility, typing, sensory training, remedial education.

West Virginia Society for the Blind and Severely Disabled

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

P.O. Box 1004

Institute, WV 25112

Tel: (800) 442-7900 (in West Virginia only.)

(304) 767-3057

(304) 767-3060 (Fax)

Robert Ramsburg, Administrator,
bobr@mail.drs.state.wv.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide jobs for people who are blind.

Established: 1946.

County/District where located: Kawawha County.

Geographic area served: West Virginia.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or disabled.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:45 PM.

Additional information: Randolph/Sheppard nominee.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Snackbar, catering, and vending machine sales. Products for sale on site.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Training for instructors, word processing.

Counseling: Group work.

Employment: Provides vocational training, placement, vending stand and food service programs, follow-up.

Wisconsin

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family
Services: Bureau of Aging and Long-term
Care Resources
(608) 266-2536

Wisconsin Department of Workforce
Development: Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation
(800) 442-3477

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family
Services: Division of Disability and Elder
Services, Birth to 3 Program
(800) 642-7837

Educational Services

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction:
Special Education Team
(800) 441-4563

Instructional Materials Center

Wisconsin Statewide Outreach Services
(866) 284-1107

Rehabilitation Services

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family
Services: Bureau for the Blind
(888) 879-0017

Wisconsin Department of Workforce
Development: Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation
(800) 442-3477

School for the Blind

Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually
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(800) 832-9784

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Badger Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

912 North Hawley Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213
Tel: (877) 258-9200
(414) 258-9200
(414) 256-8744 (Fax)
www.badgerassoc.org
E-mail: staff@badgerassoc.org
Patrick B. Brown, Executive Director, (414) 615-0108,
(414) 615-0170 (Fax), pbrown@badgerassoc.org
Jerome Selber, President
Rob Buettner, Director of Rehabilitation Services,
rbuettner@badgerassoc.org
Jackie Cline, Administration Director, (414) 615-0101,
jcline@badgerassoc.org
Kathy Fortier, Outlook Shoppe Manager, (414) 615-0111,
shoppe@badgerassoc.org
Troy Hergert, Technology Coordinator, (414) 615-0122,
thergert@badgerassoc.org
Leticia Jimenez, Rehabilitation Services Coordinator,
(414) 615-0127, ljimenez@badgerassoc.org
Howard Kaufman, Social Worker/Computer
Instructor, (414) 615-0111,
hkaufman@badgerassoc.org
Gerry Niedermaier, Orientation and Mobility
Specialist, (414) 615-0125,
gniedermaier@badgerassoc.org
Diane Payton, ADL Instructor, (414) 615-0124,
dpayton@badgerassoc.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote personal development, career growth, and community awareness through specialized services and programs for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Milwaukee County.

Geographic area served: Primarily southeastern Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: At least age 18, vision less than 20/60.

Ages served: 10 to 90.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Elevator; braille/low vision signs.

State Technology Programs

Wisconsin Assistive Technology Program

Residential Facilities: Dorm rooms, permanent and temporary.

Clients served annually: 3,000.

Staff: 40. Volunteers provide supplementary services (1,400 hours per year).

Fee structure: Charge per class or item in store, subsidized by donations or endowment.

Publications: Informer (quarterly to members), In Focus (2 times a year to donors, members, past consumers, friends).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Provides training in the use of portable braille notetakers and other adaptive devices. Sells watches, clocks, braille paper and supplies, household items, games, sunglasses. Products for sale on site.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Teaches modified techniques for reading and writing including handwriting, tape recording, telephone dialing techniques, touch typing, Grade I & II braille.

Community Outreach Programs: Speaker's Bureau provides speakers for schools and civic groups. VNA program matches volunteers with blind people in community to help with shopping, mail, and reading.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides social work services to individuals, families, community organizations and service agencies in the following areas: adjustment stages, resources, consultation services.

Counseling: Offers support groups, individual counseling.

Information and Referral: Information provided as needed for other community services.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Recreation: Offers classes 2 days a week in various crafts, bingo, restaurant and other community trips.

Rehabilitation: Teaches techniques that enable students who are blind or visually impaired to regain their ability to function independently. Professionally trained rehabilitation teachers develop an

individualized plan of service based on each student's unique needs and goals. Provides training in the basic content areas of food preparation, personal management, personal hygiene and grooming, nutrition, household maintenance, money management, sewing, use of time keeping devices, and methods of organizing. Senior Skills program helps adults relearn simple tasks by making the most of their remaining vision and developing new non-visual skills. **Support Groups:** Offers one-on-one counseling and support groups.

Center for Blind and Visually Impaired Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

5600 West Brown Deer Road
Milwaukee, WI 53223
Tel: (414) 355-3060
(414) 355-3547 (Fax)
www.cbvic.org
E-mail: lbell@cbvic.org

Linda N. Bell, Executive Director, lbell@cbvic.org
Erica Welse, Social Worker

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help infants and preschoolers who are blind or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities, to learn and develop in mind and body.

Geographic area served: Greater Milwaukee area and surrounding counties.

Eligibility requirements: Birth-age 5 years, children with blindness or vision impairment, including the multiply disabled.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Handicapped accessible.

Staff: 15 part-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides vision assessments and developmental assessments.

Counseling: Informational meetings, parent and family support group meetings.

Early Intervention: Provides early intervention, including early childhood special education, education for the visually impaired, orientation and mobility, and therapies. Center-based programs. Home visits and consultation services are available.

Parent Assistance: Offers support groups, parent-to-parent mentoring, educational meetings, one-on-one assistance.

Preschool: Offers special education and therapy for children from 3 to 6 years old.

Support Groups: Holds family support group meetings.

Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center: Low Vision Clinic

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

5000 West National
Milwaukee, WI 53295
Tel: (414) 384-2000

Leon Haith, Visual Impairment Team Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Milwaukee County.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired veterans.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Staff: Ophthalmologist; ophthalmology residents; social worker; rehabilitation teacher; rehabilitation counselor; audiologist.

SERVICES OFFERED

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Computers to Help People, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

825 East Johnson Street
Madison, WI 53703
Tel: (608) 257-5917

(608) 257-3480 (Fax)

www.chpi.org/

E-mail: director@chpi.org

John J. Boyer, Executive Director, director@chpi.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To apply computer technology to the problems of people with disabilities, especially to increasing their employability and productivity.

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Dane.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Eligibility requirements: Decided on case by case basis.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Sat. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible on first floor.

Clients served annually: 75.

Staff: 10. Braille proofreader, braille entry editors, volunteers, managers.

Fee structure: Fee for service.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Science and mathematics textbooks, philosophy, psychology, general textbooks.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: North Central Region Office (HKNC)

See Illinois.

Industries for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

3220 West Vliet Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
Tel: (414) 933-4319
(414) 933-4316 (Fax)
www.ibmke.com

Chuck Lange, President, chuck.lange@ibmilw.com
Karen Walls, Vice President-Administration/CFO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To employ people who are visually impaired, totally blind, legally blind, deaf-blind, or blind with other disabilities.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Milwaukee County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Wisconsin.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Sheltered workshop offers employment opportunities to persons who are visually impaired, blind, deaf-blind, or blind with other disabilities.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation through sheltered workshop program.

LOCAL OFFICES

Jamesville: 1713 R. West State Street, Jamesville, WI 53546

Insight/WYMS

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Radio reading station

5225 West Vliet Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
Tel: (414) 475-8890
(414) 475-8413 (Fax)
www.wyms.org

Theresa Kopac, Contact, theresa@wyms.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: Milwaukee and metropolitan area.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SERVICES OFFERED

Reading Services: Broadcasts Insight and material from books, national news, newspapers, and magazines.

Low Vision Rehabilitation Service: University Station Clinics

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

2880 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53705
Tel: (608) 263-7171
www.uwhealth.org

Stephen D. Kessler, O.D., Staff Optometrist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for people who are totally blind, legally blind, or visually impaired.

County/District where located: Dane County.

Geographic area served: Unlimited.

Eligibility requirements: Referral, ophthalmologic report.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Wednesdays, AM.

Funded by: Client fees, state funds.

Staff: Optometrist, optician.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Low Vision Services, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Evaluates reading and daily living skills to determine specific optical and non-optical devices to be prescribed and provided for low vision.

Computer Training: Video magnifier/CCTV.

Low Vision: Distance/near tasks skill levels evaluated, training in use of optical and non-optical devices provided. Loaners available. Follow-up provided. Provides training in use of hand-held and stand magnifiers, telescopes, closed-circuit television.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in activities of daily living (ADL), refers to vision teachers associated with Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and trains in use of optical and non-optical devices for low vision.

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

759 North Milwaukee Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Tel: (414) 765-0505

www.preventblindness.org/wi/

E-mail: info@preventblindnesswisconsin.org

Donna Brady, Executive Director,

donna@preventblindnesswisconsin.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Has a vision screening program for children.

Information and Referral: Provides information about eye disease, eye health, and eye safety.

Library: Maintains full eye health and safety library.

Professional Training: Provides training in vision screening and in teaching the following: eye safety to children, battery safety to automobile drivers, eye patch compliance to children in treatment, glaucoma treatment compliance to patients.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Central Blind Rehabilitation Center

See Illinois.

Volunteer Braillists & Tapists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

517 North Segoe Road
Suite 200

Madison, WI 53705-3172

Tel: (608) 233-0222

(608) 233-0249 (Fax)

www.vbti.org

E-mail: vbti@juno.com

Sue C. Nelson, Office Coordinator

Julie Sumwalt, Braille Coordinator, vbti.julie@juno.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for totally blind, legally blind, visually impaired people that includes producing materials in braille or on audio tape, and maintaining a free lending library serving children and adults.

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Dane County.

Geographic area served: All of United States and Canada, but primarily Wisconsin.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-12:00 noon, Tues.-Fri.

Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Clients served annually: 200.

Staff: 2 part-time.

Fee structure: Per page (braille page) fees.

Publications: Newsletter (for volunteer members).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products, Braille / Audio / Large Print Production to older persons.

Assistive Products: Braille books. Products for sale or loan.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Textbooks, career/vocational, religious, children's literature, adult fiction, cookbooks, handiwork.

Library: Maintains free lending library of more than 2000 titles in braille.

Volunteer Services for the Visually Handicapped, Inc.

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

Central Library Building

803 W. Wells Street

Milwaukee, WI 53233-1436

Tel: (414) 286-3039

(414) 286-5450 (Fax)

www.vsvh.org

E-mail: info@vsvh.org

Dale Anne Craven, Executive Director

Constance Slegler, Office Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To transcribe print materials into braille and onto audiotape for people who are blind, visually impaired, and learning disabled and to make standard print materials should be accessible to everyone.

Established: 1965.

County/District where located: Milwaukee County.

Geographic area served: Primarily Wisconsin but requests are honored from across the country and abroad.

Eligibility requirements: Persons who are blind, visually impaired, dyslexic, or have other learning disabilities that affect their ability to read standard print materials.

Hours of operation: Tues.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, endowments, foundation grants, Lions Clubs, private donations.

Clients served annually: 600 requests received each year.

Staff: Four. Executive Director, Braille Coordinator, Office Manager, Administrative Assistant, and approximately 80 volunteers.

Fee structure: Braille: 25 cents per page plus binding fees. Tapes: \$2.25 each.

Publications: On-Site (newsletter); informational brochure.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Consumer supplied.

Wausau School District

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

415 Seymour Street

Wausau, WI 54402-0359

Tel: (715) 261-2545

(715) 261-2556 (Fax)

www.wausau.k12.wi.us

David Damgaard, Administrator, Exceptional Education, ddamgaard@ausau.k12.wi.us

Karen Schultz, Teacher of Visually Impaired, (715) 261-2200, (715) 261-2223 (Fax), kschultz@ausau.k12.wi.us

Ann Wicklund, Assistant Director of Special Education, (715) 261-2511, (715) 261-2522 (Fax), awicklnd@ausau.k12.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide students with the skills they need to be successful.

Established: 1800.

County/District where located: Marathon County.

Geographic area served: Central and northern Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction requirements regarding visual impairment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:50 AM-3:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Boarding home services available for out-of-district students.

Funded by: Foundation grants, government grants, public funds, state funds.

Staff: 17 part-time (social worker, psychologist, occupational and physical therapists). Specialists and therapists available as consultants. Has advisory board (parent members) for overall program. 1 full-time teacher, 2 part-time teacher, 2 full-time aides, 1 part-time aide, 1 part-time O&M instructor, consultants.

Fee structure: Free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Counseling: Offers parent and other counseling, financial assistance, and other social services.

Education Services: Provides instruction in all developmental areas, orientation and mobility, home teaching and resource room programs for visually impaired/multiply disabled persons, 3-21 years. Produces academic educational materials in audiocassettes, braille and large print for enrollees.

Health/Medical: Provides adaptive equipment, genetic counseling, low vision examinations, immunization, blood tests on consultant or referral basis.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Available as needed to parents of visually impaired students, as well as regularly scheduled conferences, annual individual education programs.

Preschool: Preschool services provided in accordance with individualized education plan for children age 3 to 5 who are visually impaired.

Wisconsin Academy of Ophthalmology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

Metro Square One, Suite 120

10 West Phillip Road

Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1730

Tel: (847) 680-1666 (Local)

(847) 680-1682 (Fax)

(800) 780-4312 (Toll-Free)

www.midwesteyemd.org/wisconsin

E-mail: eyeorg@aol.com

Richard H. Paul, Executive Director

Wisconsin Assistive Technology Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State technology program

Division of Disability and Elder Services

1 W. Wilson Street, Room 450

Madison, WI 53707-7851

Tel: (608) 266-8905

(608) 267-9880 (TDD/TTY)

(608) 267-3203 (Fax)

www.dhfs.state.wi.us/Disabilities/wistech/services.htm

Susan Abbey, Project Director,
abbeysu@dhfs.state.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Provides assistance when people with disabilities encounter discrimination related to assistive technology.

Assessment: Provides assessments of individual needs for assistive technology.

Assistive Products: Maintains a loan closet of assistive technology items that people can try out for themselves.

Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (WCBVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Low vision center/clinic
- School for the blind

1700 West State Street

Janesville, WI 53546

Tel: (800) 832-9784

(608) 758-6196

(608) 758-6127 (TDD/TTY)

(608) 758-6161 (Fax)

www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us/

Sue H. Enoch, Assistant Director, Special Education Team, Center Director, (608) 758-6104, sue.enoch@dpi.state.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work in partnership with local education agencies and other service providers, to serve as a statewide network of professionals, resources, materials and equipment to promote quality professional practices directed toward ensuring excellence in educational programming and expanded opportunities for students who are blind or visually impaired.

County/District where located: Rock County.

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Identification as a student who is blind, including disabilities according to Wisconsin's Eligibility Criteria for identifying disabilities.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Dormitories; independent living apartments.

Clients served annually: 70.

Staff: 150. Administration, certified teachers, teaching assistants, dormitory staff, materials production staff, nursing staff, business office, facilities and food service.

Fee structure: No cost to Wisconsin residents.

Publications: Eye Spy-monthly newsletter to parents, the Viewer, topical related occasional publication for parents/professionals.

Additional information: The Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is an integral part of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessment on site or in their community determined by child's need at no cost.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille,

cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Produces braille and large-print textbooks.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers in-service training for teachers, parent education, preschool and early childhood conferences.

Counseling: Provides social evaluations; psychological testing and evaluation; individual, group, family/parent, couple counseling. Provides consultation to other agencies for other counseling/social work services, especially local school districts.

Education Services: Provides instruction in developmental areas. Offers home-based programs and consultant services to other programs for visually impaired children, with or without other disabilities, 0-5 years, Grades K through 12 and programs for adult continuing education, college preparatory, and general academic studies; and vocational/skill development.

Employment: Provides pre-vocational evaluation, career and skill counseling, occupational skill development, and job training and placement.

Health/Medical: Provides physical therapy and speech therapy. Contracts and provides consultation to other agencies for other health services.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Day student enrollment only.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement in industrial arts, orientation/mobility, special education and regular in-service training programs, open to enrollment from other agencies.

Recreation: Offers adult continuing education, after-school programs, arts and crafts, hobby groups, swimming, track, wrestling, cross country skiing. Contracts for bowling.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in personal management, braille, handwriting, listening skills, use of the Optacon typing, use of video magnifier and electronic mobility aids, orientation and mobility, sensory training, remedial education, transition training and vocational guidance.

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services: Bureau for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- State rehabilitation services

1 West Wilson Street

Madison, WI 53707

Tel: (888) 879-0017 (For Wisconsin residents only)

(608) 266-3109

(608) 266-3256 (Fax)

www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/blind/

Michael Nelipovich, Director, nelipmi@dhfs.state.wi.us

Tom Langham, Field Supervisor, Bureau for the Blind, (608) 266-3139, langhto@dhfs.state.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Ages served: 0 and above.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Counseling: Offers individual counseling and provides referrals.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Professional Training: Offers internship/fieldwork placement programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living and personal management skills. Instructors travel within their assigned region to individual's home to provide services. Administers the Independent Living for Older Blind federal grant, which allows the Bureau to hire paraprofessionals on a limited basis to provide rehabilitation services to individuals experiencing vision loss who are 55 and older and to facilitate support groups.

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services: Bureau of Aging and Long-term Care Resources

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State unit on aging**

1 West Wilson

Madison, WI 53707

Tel: (608) 266-2536

(608) 267-3203 (Fax)

www.dhss.wisconsin.gov/aging

Donna McDowell, Director, Bureau of Aging and Long-term Care Resources,
mcdowdb@dhfs.state.wi.us

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Area Agencies on Aging and information on other local aging services.

Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services: Division of Disability and Elder Services, Birth to 3 Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Part C early intervention agency**

1 West Wilson Street

P.O. Box 7851

Madison, WI 53707

Tel: (800) 642-7837

(608) 267-3270

(608) 261-6752 (Fax)

www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/

E-mail: webmaster@dhfs.state.wi.us

Beth Wroblewski, Section Chief, (608) 266-7469,
wroblbm@dhfs.state.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1991.

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Children birth to 36 months who meet state-established eligibility criteria and entitlement to early intervention and family support services.

Ages served: 0 to 3.

Fee structure: Parental Cost Share.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Wisconsin's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Refers to appropriate therapists, social workers, nurses, and teachers who provide early intervention services.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: Special Education Team

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **State educational services**

125 South Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707-7841

Tel: (800) 441-4563

(608) 266-3522

(608) 267-3746 (Fax)

www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/een/

Stephanie Petska, Director of Special Education,
 Division for Learning Support Equity and Advocacy
 Jeremiah Holiday, State Consultant, Educational
 Consultant for Visually Impaired, Division for
 Learning Support Equity and Advocacy,
jeremiah.holiday@dpi.state.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Dane County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultation regarding educational programming for blind/visually impaired students age 3-21. Answers educational programming questions posed by parents and staff members of schools serving blind/visually impaired.

Early Intervention: Works in conjunction with Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services regarding services for blind/visually impaired students birth to age 3.

Education Services: Assists parents and school districts with educational programming for students who are blind or visually-impaired. Coordinates activities and services with the Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped and Educational Services Center for the

Visually Impaired. Provides supervisory and consultation services to local educational agencies serving visually impaired children. Administers supplemental state and federal funds for programs and services. Offers evaluation services. Provides educational resources for preschool through high school and multiply handicapped visually impaired students. Supplies braille, large type books, tapes, and specialized equipment; training on computer aids and devices.

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development: Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Independent living program
- State rehabilitation services

201 East Washington
Madison, WI 53707-7852

Tel: (800) 442-3477

(608) 261-0050

(888) 877-5939 (TDD/TTY)

(608) 266-0283 (TDD/TTY)

(608) 266-1133 (Fax)

www.dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/

E-mail: dwdvdr@dwd.state.wi.us

Charlene Dwyer, Division Administrator,

charlene.dwyer@dwd.state.wi.us

Greg Feypel, Business Enterprise Specialist, Business Enterprise Program, (608) 261-0058,

greg.feypel@dwd.state.wi.us

Terry Schnapp, Deputy Administrator,

terry.schnapp@dwd.state.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To obtain, maintain, and improve employment for people with disabilities by working with VR consumers, employers, and other partners.

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Disability impeding employment.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:45 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Employment: Provides services that lead to competitive employment for persons with disabilities, also services to help retain employment after acquiring a disability. With its Business Enterprise Program (BEP), locates, establishes, supervises, maintains a statewide small business program for legally blind persons (cafeteria, coffee shop, snack bar, vending machine, and newsstand operations).

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation services under Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended.

Wisconsin Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

5721 Odana Road

Madison, WI 53719

Tel: (608) 274-4322

(608) 274-8646 (Fax)

www.woa-eyes.org/

E-mail: Joleenwoaoffice@tds.net

Charles Brownlow, Executive Vice President,

brownlowod@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- National Library Service library

813 West Wells Street

Milwaukee, WI 53233-1436

Tel: (800) 242-8822 (Toll free in Wisconsin)

(414) 286-3045

(414) 286-3548 (TDD/TTY)

(414) 286-3102 (Fax)

www.RegionalLibrary.wi.gov

E-mail: lbph@mpl.org

Marsha Valance, Regional Librarian, (414) 286-3010,

mvalan@mpl.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services for any Wisconsin resident who cannot read normal print for any physical reason.

Established: 1961.

County/District where located: Milwaukee County.

Geographic area served: Wisconsin.

Eligibility requirements: Individuals with physical impairments that prevent the reading of standard print.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Yes.

Budget: \$ 747,800.

Clients served annually: 10,000.

Staff: 14. 2 librarians, 4 reader's advisers, 2 audio machine technicians, 1 office assistant, 4 library circulation assistants, 1 circulation aide (half-time).

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: Bulletin Board, a quarterly newsletter in large type, braille, recorded or electronic formats. Subject catalogs.

Additional information: Regional library.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Library Services, Reading Services to older persons.

Library: Provides braille and talking books, talking book machines, large-print books, and audiodescribed videocassettes for blind and physically handicapped persons.

Reading Services: NFB-Newsline and NFB-Jobline.

Wisconsin Statewide Outreach Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Instructional materials center (state-designated)

Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
1700 West State Street
Janesville, WI 53546
Tel: (866) 284-1107
www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us/outreach/index.html
Stacy Grandt, Director, (608) 758-6145,
stacy.grandt@wcbvi.k12.wi.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Rock County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides instructional materials and equipment to children throughout Wisconsin. Offers services to local school districts and Individualized Education Program (IEP) assistance. Acts as a statewide depository for American Printing House for the Blind materials.

Wiscraft

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

5316 West State Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
Tel: (414) 778-5800
(414) 778-5805 (Fax)
www.wiscraft.com
E-mail: sales@wiscraft.com
Sharon Faeh, Human Resources Director,
sfaeh@wiscraft.com
William Piernot, President, bpiernot@wiscraft.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide supportive employment for people who are blind.

Established: 1903.

County/District where located: Milwaukee County.

Geographic area served: Wisconsin, especially Milwaukee metropolitan area.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Newsletter (semi-annual).

Additional information: Wiscraft employs people who are blind or visually impaired.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides job opportunities and retraining for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Wyoming

KEY STATE AGENCIES AND RESOURCES

Aging Services

Wyoming Department of Health: Aging
Division
(800) 442-2766

Wyoming Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation
(307) 777-7389

Early Intervention Services: Part C Agency

Wyoming Department of Health: Division of
Developmental Disabilities
(307) 777-7115

Educational Services

Wyoming Department of Education: Services
for the Visually Impaired
(307) 777-6257

Rehabilitation Services

Wyoming Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation
(307) 777-7389

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Wyoming Optometric Association

State Technology Programs

Wyoming's New Options in Technology Project

Foundation Fighting Blindness: Western Regional Office (FFB)

See California.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Western Blind Rehabilitation Center

See California.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults: Rocky Mountain Region Office (HKNC)

See Colorado.

Wyoming Department of Education: Services for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ State educational services

2300 Capitol Avenue
Hathaway Building, Room 129
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050
Tel: (307) 777-6257

www.k12.wy.us/speced/index.html#vision

Gina McGee, Lead SVI Administrative Assistant, (307)

777-6533, gmcgee@educ.state.wy.us

Gary Olson, Supervisor, golson@educ.state.wy.us

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: American Lake Blind Rehabilitation Center (VAPSHCS-American Lake BRC)

See Washington.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To coordinate educational services for all visually impaired individuals in the state.

County/District where located: Laramie County.

Geographic area served: Wyoming.

Eligibility requirements: 20/70 in best corrected eye.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: 6 consultants, 1 director, 6 part-time administrative assistants, 1 lead administrative assistant.

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers consultation services to the client, client's family, service providers, and agencies and businesses.

Counseling: Offers parent and other counseling and other social services.

Education Services: Provides instruction in developmental areas, orientation and mobility and other instruction, and distributes talking book machines and other adaptive equipment.

Information and Referral: Disseminates information, including best practices in the field of visual impairments, and referral services to other agencies.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Casper: 539 South Payne Avenue, Casper, WY 82609

Cheyenne: Hathaway Building, Room 129, Cheyenne, WY 82002

Powell: 168 N Ferris, Powell, WY 82435

Powell: P.O. Box 947, Powell, WY 82435

Rawlins: Carbon Building, Room 325, Rawlins, WY 82301

Riverton: 320 W. Main Street, Riverton, WY 82501

Sheridan: 2161 Coffeen Avenue, Sixth Floor, Sheridan, WY 82801

Wyoming Department of Health: Aging Division**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ State unit on aging**

259B North Building
6101 Yellowstone Road
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Tel: (800) 442-2766

(307) 777-7986

(307) 777-5340 (Fax)

www.wdh.state.wy.us/aging/index.htm

E-mail: rdavis1@state.wy.us

Beverly Morrow, Administrator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide a flexible and responsive continuum of services that enables Wyoming senior citizens to age-in-place with maximum dignity and independence.

County/District where located: Laramie County.

Geographic area served: Wyoming.

Ages served: 60 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

Staff: 12.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Information and Referral to older persons.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to Senior Projects and other entities and information on other aging services.

Wyoming Department of Health: Division of Developmental Disabilities**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ Part C early intervention agency**

186E Qwest Building
6101 Yellowstone Road
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Tel: (307) 777-7115

(307) 777-6047 (Fax)

www.ddd.state.wy.us/

E-mail: ddmail@state.wy.us

Clifford Mikesell, Interim Administrator,
cmikes@state.wy.us

Wayne Johnson, Division Manager,
wjohns@state.wy.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Laramie County.

Eligibility requirements: Children with developmental disabilities from age 3 to 5.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Lead agency for Wyoming's early intervention system as required under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Wyoming Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION****■ Independent living program****■ State rehabilitation services**

1100 Hershler Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Tel: (307) 777-7389 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(307) 777-5939 (Fax)

www.wyomingworkforce.org/

E-mail: WorkforceServices@state.wy.us

Jim McInstosh, Administrator for Vocational Rehabilitation

Woody Absher, Project Director, Independent Living Program, (307) 777-7385, (307) 777-7156 (Fax),
wabshe@state.wy.us

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1920.

County/District where located: Laramie County.

Geographic area served: Wyoming.

Eligibility requirements: Physical or mental impairment that is a substantial impediment to employment.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Client Handbook.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Computer Training: Database software.

Counseling: Counseling services provided.

Employment: Offers evaluation, pre-vocational and vocational training, placement, vending stand business enterprise programs, follow-up.

Health/Fitness: Provides diagnostic, medical, and surgical treatment.

Professional Training: Offers internships.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in independent living skills.

Wyoming Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **Professional membership organization**

716 Randall Street

Cheyenne, WY 82001

Tel: (866) 740-3937

(307) 632-8819

(307) 634-0804 (Fax)

www.wyoming.optometry.net

E-mail: mgmtassn@aol.com

Wyoming's New Options in Technology Project

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION■ **State technology program**

University of Wyoming

Box 4298

Laramie, WY 82072-4298

Tel: (800) 861-4312 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(307) 766-2084

(307) 766-3441 (Fax)

www.wind.uwyo.edu/wynot

E-mail: wynot.uw@uwyo.edu

Keith A. Miller, Project Director, kamiller@uwyo.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To build statewide capacity for universal access to assistive technology for all of Wyoming and to establish a self-sustaining system that will continue to meet the state's need for assistive technology after federal funding has ended.

Established: 1993.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Maintains a demonstration center in which individuals can try and evaluate various pieces of assistive technology including low tech and high tech devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides a variety of training opportunities for professional organizations, state agencies, private industry, service providers, community groups, and consumers interested in learning more about assistive technology and services.

Information and Referral: Provides a free information and referral program.

Section Two

Canadian Organizations

Federal Agencies

Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC)

344 Slater Street, 8th Floor

Ottawa, ON K1A 1E1

Tel: (613) 995-1151

(613) 996-9661 (Fax)

(888) 643-3304 (TDD/TTY)

(888) 214-1090 (Toll-Free)

www.chrc-ccdp.ca

E-mail: info.com@chrc-ccdp.ca

Mary Gusella, Chief Commissioner

France St-Laurent, Communications

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Mission: To promote knowledge of human rights in Canada and to encourage people to follow principles of equality; to provide effective and timely means for resolving individual complaints; and to help reduce barriers to equality in employment and access to services.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Publications: Publications on various issues such as human rights protection and prevention, employment equity, pay equity, discrimination and harassment, disability and alternative dispute resolution.

Additional information: CHRC administers both the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Employment Equity Act, and ensures that the principles of equal opportunity and non-discrimination are followed in all areas of federal jurisdiction.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Edmonton: 308-10010 106 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 3L8.

Halifax: 504-5475 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, NS B3J 3T2.

Montreal: 470-1253 McGill College Avenue, Montréal, PQ H3B 2Y5.

Toronto: South Tower, 1002-175 Bloor Street East, Toronto, ON M4W 3R8.

Vancouver: 301-1095 West Pender Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6.

Winnipeg: 750-175 Hargrave Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3R8.

Canadian Transportation Agency: Accessible Transportation Directorate

15 Eddy Street

Gatineau, PQ K1A 0N9

Tel: (819) 997-6828

(819) 953-6019 (Fax)

(819) 953-9705 (TDD/TTY)

(888) 222-2592 (Toll-Free)

www.cta.gc.ca

E-mail: cta.comment@cta-otc.gc.ca

Marian Robson, Chairman

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To work with both travellers with disabilities and the transportation industry to achieve accessible transportation and to remove undue obstacles in two ways: on a case-by-case basis by resolving individual complaints, and on a systemic basis by developing regulations, codes of practice and standards concerning the level of accessibility in modes of transport under federal jurisdiction, such as air, rail, and ferry.

Geographic area served: Canada

Publications: See website www.cta.gc.ca

Additional information: The Canadian Transportation Agency is a quasi-judicial tribunal that works with both travellers with disabilities and the transportation industry to achieve accessible transportation.

Department of Justice, Canada

284 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H8

Tel: (613) 957-4222

(613) 992-4556 (Fax)

www.canada.justice.gc.ca/

Irwin Cotler, Minister of Justice and Attorney General,
irwin.cotler@justice.gc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To support the Minister of Justice in working to ensure that Canada is a just and law-abiding society with an accessible, efficient and fair system of justice; provide high-quality legal services and counsel to the government and to client departments and agencies; and promote respect for rights and freedoms, the law and the Constitution.

Publications: Justice Canada (quarterly).

Library and Archives Canada/Bibliothèque et Archives Canada (LAC-BAC)

395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4

Tel: (613) 996-5115

(613) 943-1112 (Fax)

(613) 992-6969 (TDD/TTY)

(866) 578-7777 (Toll-Free) (In Canada and the US)

(866) 299-1699 (Toll-Free TDD) (In Canada)

www.collectionscanada.ca/

E-mail: reference@lac-bac.gc.ca

Ian Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, (613)
992-2473, ian.wilson@lac-bac.gc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2004.

Mission: To acquire and preserve the documentary heritage; to make the heritage known to Canadians and to anyone with interest in Canada and to facilitate access to it; to be the permanent repository of publications of the government of Canada and of government and ministerial records that are of historical or archival value; to facilitate the management of information by government institutions; to coordinate the library services of government institutions; and to support the development of the library and archival communities.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Additional information: Library and Archives Canada (LAC) was created when the Library and Archives Canada Act came into force on May 21, 2004. This new knowledge institution for Canada replaces the former National Archives of Canada (established in 1872) and National Library of Canada (established 1953).

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: A free national library program for persons who are unable to read or use standard printed materials as a result of temporary or permanent visual or physical limitations is operated by the Library and Archives Canada Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LACS), Library of Congress which selects, produces, and distributes books and magazines in braille and recorded formats, and designs and manufactures special playback equipment for use with the audio materials. The LACS International Union Catalog is a database of records for finding books in braille and recorded formats. The 325,000 titles listed are from the LACS collection as well as other agencies serving blind and disabled readers throughout the English-speaking world. Readers may search the full catalog of books in all special formats including an option for books that are in process or choose to limit their search to Web-Braille titles.

Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)

Place du Portage, Phase III

11 Laurier Street

Gatineau, PQ K1A 0S5

Tel: (819) 997-6363

(819) 775-4914 (Fax)

(800) 465-7735 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 622-6232 (Toll-Free)

www.pwgsc.gc.ca/text/home-e.html

E-mail: questions@pwgsc.gc.ca

Scott Brison, Minister and Receiver General for Canada

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure that government buildings are accessible to persons with disabilities, both employees and members of the general public who use government services. To provide support and consultation in the area of barrier-free design of federal buildings and develop design standards and guidelines.

Social Development Canada: Office for Disability Issues (ODI)

25 Eddy Street

Terrasses de la Chaudière, Suite 100

Hull, PQ K1A 0M5

Tel: (819) 997-2412

(819) 953-4797 (Fax)

(800) 622-6232 (Toll-Free)

(800) 465-7735 (Toll-Free TDD)

www.sdc.gc.ca/en/gateways/nav/top_nav/program/odi.shtml

E-mail: disability@canada.gc.ca

Richard Beaulne, Team Leader, Information Management, (819) 953-9123,
richard.beaulne@sdsc-dsc.gc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To remove barriers and to improve the social and economic inclusion of Canadians with disabilities by improving knowledge and understanding of disability issues; improving policy and program coherence; encouraging innovation through pilots/demonstrations of access and inclusion; and broadening partnerships and engagement.

Additional information: ODI assists in the development of policies and programs that promote equality and independence for persons with disabilities and advocates regarding issues of concern to disabled persons and promotes research and the development of resources and information.

Transport Canada: Accessible Transportation Policy and Programs

Place de Ville Tower, 26th Floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5
Tel: (613) 991-6407
(613) 993-7930 (Fax)
(800) 823-3823 (Toll-Free)
www.tc.gc.ca/

John-C Lapierre, Minister
Luc Lanthier, Policy Officer, lanthlu@tc.gc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To develop and administer policies, regulations and services for the best possible transportation system for Canada and Canadians.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Additional information: Government watchdog agency for transportation policy, regulations, and services.

Treasury Board of Canada: Human Resources Branch (HRB)

L'Esplanade Laurier
300 Laurier Avenue West
10th Floor, West Tower
Ottawa, ON K1A 0R5
Tel: (613) 957-2400
(613) 998-9071 (Fax)

(613) 957-9090 (TDD/TTY)
www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/index_e.asp
E-mail: info@tbs-sct.gc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1867.

Mission: To help the Government of Canada manage its human, financial, information and technology resources prudently and in a manner that best supports the government's objectives and priorities.

Additional information: HRB supports the President and the Treasury Board in its capacity as general manager and employer for the Public Service of Canada by developing, recommending, and implementing the human resources management framework that will provide Canadians with a professional, representative and productive workforce to deliver government programs and services. The framework includes legislation and policies related to job evaluation, compensation, terms and conditions of employment, training and development, labour relations, employment adjustment, human resources framework for alternative service delivery, the pension program, employee benefit and insurance programs, pay equity, employment equity, and official languages. HRB also provides departments and agencies with policy direction, interpretation and advice.

Veterans Affairs Canada: Veteran Services Branch

P.O. Box 7700
Charlottetown, PE C1A 8M9
www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/
E-mail: steanne@vac-acc.gc.ca
Tel: (902) 426-7400
(866) 522-2122 (Toll-Free TDD) (English)
Albina Guarnieri, Minister of Veterans Affairs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide exemplary, client-centred services and benefits that respond to the needs of veterans, our other clients and their families, in recognition of their services to Canada; and to keep the memory of their achievements and sacrifices alive for all Canadians.

Additional information: The Veterans Services Branch operates programs through which blind veterans are equally eligible with other veterans for a wide range of benefits and services and receive special equipment and supplementary benefits specifically related to their blindness.

National Organizations

Canadian Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

234 Argyle Avenue
Ottawa, ON K2P 1B9
Tel: (613) 235-7924 (Local)
(613) 235-2025 (Fax)
(888) 263-4676 (Toll-Free)
www.opto.ca
E-mail: info@opto.ca

R. Glenn Campbell, Executive Director,
gcampbell@opto.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1948.

Mission: To fulfill the vision and eye care needs of the public through clinical care, research and education, all of which enhance the quality of life.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Works on optometry's behalf with government, industry, vision care patients, the public at large, and other health care professionals.

Information and Referral: Apprises membership of new and recent developments in optometry.

Canadian Blind Sports Association (CBSA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

325-5055 Joyce Street
Vancouver, BC V5R 6B2
Tel: (604) 419-0480 (Local) (Information available in both French and English)
(604) 419-0481 (Fax)

Jane D. Blaine, Acting Executive Director, (604)
419-0480, cbsa@istar.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To facilitate the provision of national and international sport opportunities for Canadians who are legally blind.

County/District where located Greater Vancouver Regional District British Columbia

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Athletes must be legally blind according to International Blind Sports Association and/or most current federal definition and/or sight classification administered by a CBSA registered ophthalmologist.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Pacific Time.

Accessibility: Walking distance from Skytrain.

Funded by: Private Donations, Endowments, Government Grants.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Publications: Moving to Inclusion, A Teacher's Resource Manual.

Additional information: CBSA works with Provincial Offices in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information about blind sports in Canada and refers to provincial affiliates and/or other resources.

Recreation: Offers a wide range of programs to promote integration of athletes who are blind into sports and recreation programs.

Canadian Council for Exceptional Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Professional membership organization

1010 Polytek Court, Unit 36
Gloucester, ON K1J 9J2
Tel: (613) 747-9226 (Local)
(613) 745-9282 (Fax)

www.canadian.cec.sped.org/index.html

Lynn Ziraldo, Director at Large, ldayr@idirect.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1922.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Staff: 2

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Through CEC's Children's Action Network (CAN), influences federal, provincial, and local policies on special education.

Employment: Maintains Career Connections, CEC's Online Job Bank, which includes a job-posting service and resume-referral service designed to match the right educator with the right job.

Professional Training: Holds an annual convention in which members present their work and practices in more than 600 sessions. Offers other opportunities for members to exchange ideas through online discussion forums, study groups, and other distance learning opportunities.

Canadian Council of the Blind (CCB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Consumer membership organization

396 Cooper Street, Suite 401

Ottawa, ON K2P 2H7

Tel: (613) 567-0311 (Local)

(613) 567-2728 (Fax)

(877) 304-0968 (Toll-Free)

www.ccbnational.net/

E-mail: ccb@ccbnational.net

Harold Schnellert, President, ccbpres@telus.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1947.

Mission: To establish, organize and maintain a nationwide association dedicated to assisting and enhancing the individual and collective efforts of individuals who are blind or visually impaired. The Association seeks to provide rehabilitation through social and recreational activities, higher education, employment, and social association.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind or impending legally blind status.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Elevator, no ramp.

Fee structure: Annual membership fee.

Publications: In-house national and divisional newsletters. CCB National OutLook Magazine.

Additional information: Representatives available in provinces of British Columbia/Yukon, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New

Brunswick, Nova Scotia/Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland/Labrador. All may be contacted via central office at (613) 567-0311 or (877) 304-0968.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Newsletters and various requested materials.

Counseling: Offers family and peer counseling and community integration support for seniors.

Early Intervention: Participates in publication of a Canadian national registry for early childhood (birth to age 5) visual impairment.

Information and Referral: Provides nationwide information and referral concerning blindness/visual impairment.

Recreation: Offers crafts, music, sports, annual national/regional/divisional bowling, and cribbage tournaments.

Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association (CDBRA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization
- Professional membership organization

350 Brant Avenue

Brantford, ON N3T 3J9

Tel: (519) 754-0729 (Local)

(519) 754-5400 (Fax)

www.cdbra.ca

E-mail: cdbra.nat@sympatico.ca

Linda Mamer, President, (604) 668-6579,

linda.mamer@shaw.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

Mission: To assist all persons who are deaf-blind to achieve the best quality of life, providing the best possible opportunity to communicate, access information, make choices (regarding education, recreation, vocation, accommodation, medical, physical, spiritual, and emotional care), and be included in the community.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: All are welcome to join the CDBRA. Members are primarily deaf-blind consumers and their family members, professionals who work with them, and intervenors.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Funded by: United Way, Private Donations, Government Grants.

Staff: National office has 2 part-time paid staff, 1 consultant. Balance is volunteer-based across Canada. Each chapter may have paid staff.

Fee structure: Membership range: \$10, \$15, \$20, \$25 (Canadian).

Publications: WINGS: A Model for an Integrated Lifestyle; A Survey of Late Emerging Manifestations of Congenital Rubella in Canada; Intervention (semi-annual newsmagazine); Developing a National Volunteer Registry of Persons with Deafblindness in Canada: Results from the Study, 1999-2001; Supported Independent Living Residences in Canada - A Handbook; Perceptions of Light - Canada (A Photographic Documentary about Individuals who are Deafblind) by Natalie Schonfeld.

Additional information: Maintains chapters in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Some chapters offer this.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides assistance with special schools and individual programs.

Counseling: Offers counseling and self-help.

Recreation: Offers use of community facilities.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Library
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency
- Research organization

1929 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, ON M4G 3E8
Tel: (416) 486-2500 (Local)
(416) 480-7677 (Fax)
www.cnib.ca

Jim Sanders, President and CEO, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7588, jim.sanders@cnib.ca

Geoff FitzGibbon, National Manager, Technical Aids, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7484, Geoff.FitzGibbon@cnib.ca

Wendy Gibbs, Vice President, Development and Communications, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7629, Wendy.Gibbs@cnib.ca

Rosemary Kavanagh, Vice President, Client Services and Information Systems, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7055, Rosemary.Kavanagh@cnib.ca

Craig Lillico, Vice President, CFO & Treasurer, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7585, Craig.Lillico@cnib.ca

Barbara Marjeram, Corporate Secretary, National Office of the President, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7586, Barbara.Marjeram@cnib.ca

Margaret McGrory, Chief Information Officer, CNIB and Executive Director, CNIB Library, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7521, Margaret.Mcgrory@cnib.ca

Cathy Moore, National Director, Consumer & Government Relations, (613) 563-0000 Ext. #154, Cathy.Moore@cnib.ca

Marilyn Rewak, National Director, Communication and Media Relations, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7644, Marilyn.Rewak@cnib.ca

Linda Studholme, Director, National Rehabilitation and Technology, (416) 486-2500 Ext. #7464, Linda.Studholme@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1918.

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

County/District where located: Canada.

Geographic area served: All of Canada, through a network of divisional offices.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Staff: 1,000. In addition to CNIB staff, 20,000 volunteers also assist with CNIB programs and services.

Fee structure: No cost to clients.

Publications: Vision (bi-annual magazine), Braille Kit for Parents, newsletters (divisional, bi-annual). Publications available in English, French, audiotape, braille.

Additional information: CNIB is a national voluntary agency. The CNIB Library, founded in 1906 by Canada's first blind university graduate, merged with the newly founded CNIB in 1918 and is a producer of materials in accessible formats.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assistive Products; Library Services; Reading Services; Braille and Reading Instruction to older persons.

Assessment: Provided through local/divisional offices. Clients assessed for vocational, rehabilitative, English language, mobility training needs.

Assistive Products: Operates the CNIB Technical Aids stores, which is staffed by professional technicians who provide consultations and demonstrations of a variety of high- and low-tech devices. These devices vary from

simple needle threaders to computers with voice output, large print computer screens, printers that produce braille text and machines that scan the printed word and repeat it back to the user.

Braille and Reading Instruction: The CNIB Library functions as the certifying body in Canada for English braille. Offers a variety of courses for people interested in learning braille, such as Grade 1 and Grade 2 Literary Braille and Transcriber's Certification. Also offers a summer reading program for children and, in conjunction with the Canadian Braille Literacy Foundation, organizes an annual Braille Creative Writing and Accuracy Competition for children.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types of content:** Text books, journal articles, charts, restaurant menus, business cards, music, manuals, calendars, government documents into any format required, such as braille, audio, e-text or large print. Graphs, flow charts, maps, floor plans, and many other illustration needs can be produced as raised, three-dimensional tactile images.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides deaf-blind outreach services.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides technical program assistance to professionals working with individuals who are blind/visually impaired.

Counseling: Offers individual and family counseling relating to vision loss, parent, peer and family support groups, and referrals to appropriate services.

Education Services: Provides college and university preparation training to students. Transcribes educational materials into braille and tape formats.

Employment/Job Training: Provides a wide range of vocational, employment and business-related services and programs, helping individuals determine career goals, discover, improve or learn new skills, acquire job search techniques and find the right job.

Health/Medical: Supports medical research and influences public policy, and supports the development of technology and services for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Information and Referral: Offers information on common causes of vision loss, as well as general information on various eye conditions, contact lenses, first aid for eye injuries and Canadian Eye Banks on its web site.

Library: Offers library and information services to 100,000 Canadians who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind. Sells a wide selection of CNIB talking books through the Public Library Sales Program. Libraries can make these books available to patrons on a restricted-access basis only.

Orientation and Mobility: Works on a one-to-one basis to help individuals develop independent travel skills and white cane techniques.

Parent Assistance: Produces informational materials for parents of blind/visually impaired children such as handbooks, braille kits and other resources. Also offers an Early Intervention Program for blind and visually impaired children seven years and younger.

Reading: Offers VisuNEWS by phone or Internet, a service that enables clients to read 40 newspapers from Canada and elsewhere.

Rehabilitation: Helps individuals adjust to visual impairments and maintain their independence by developing practical skills of daily living such as cooking, banking, personal grooming, reading and writing braille, typing and handwriting.

Canadian National Society of the Deaf-Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Consumer membership organization

422 Willowdale Avenue

North York, ON M2N 5B1

Tel: (416) 510-9931 (Local)

(416) 223-0182 (Fax)

www.cnsdb.ca/

E-mail: cnsdb@canada.com

Jane Sayer, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To advocate for new and improved services for persons who are deaf-blind; to promote public awareness of issues affecting persons who are deaf-blind; to gather and distribute information that will assist persons who are deaf-blind to become full participants in society.

County/District where located Province of Ontario.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Deaf-blind or persons supporting the cause of deaf-blindness. Must be 18 or above, having acquired deaf-blindness, to receive various services.

Publications: CNSDB Newsletter (large-print, braille, available in French and English).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information about deaf-blindness and refers to appropriate community and national resources.

Financial Assistance: Provides funding for technical devices used by individuals who have acquired deaf-blindness and are members.

Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

610-1525 Carling Avenue

Ottawa, ON K1Z 8R9

Tel: (613) 729-6779 (Local)

(613) 729-7209 (Fax)

www.eyesite.ca

E-mail: cos@eyesite.ca

Hubert E. Drouin, Executive Director,

hdrouin@eyesite.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1937.

Mission: To assure the provision of optimal eye care to all Canadians by promoting excellence in ophthalmology and providing services to support its members in practice.

Publications: Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology.

Christian Blind Mission International

3844 Stouffville Road

Stouffville, ON L4A 7Z9

Tel: (800) 567-2264 (In Canada only)

(905) 640-6464

(905) 640-4332 (Fax)

www.cbmi-can.org/

David McComiskey, Executive Director,

dmccomiskey@cbmi-can.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide eye care for people in need in developing countries through national partners.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Province of Ontario.

Geographic area served: International.

Budget: \$10,000,000.

Clients served annually: 100,000.

Staff: 25.

Additional information: Affiliate offices in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland, UK and USA.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Operates a Craft Store to sell products from blind, deaf, physically and mentally disabled people in the developing world.

Health/Medical: Examines, treats and, when necessary, operates on 9,000,000 eye patients worldwide.

Library: Operates a talking book library of Christian books on cassette tape in Canada. This service is free to any person who is legally blind.

Christian Record Services: National Camps for the Blind

1300 King Street

Suite 119

Oshawa, ON L1H 8N9

Tel: (905) 436-6938

(905) 436-7102 (Fax)

www.crsblindservices.ca/

E-mail: crs-ncb@oix.com

Pat Page, Executive Director, (905) 436-3102 (Fax)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enrich the lives of those who are blind, visually impaired, or physically challenged by helping them to accept their impairment while challenging them to achieve greater self confidence.

Established: 1899.

County/District where located: Province of Ontario.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired, physically unable to read regular print. Campers who are multiply handicapped must not require personal attendant or must supply their own.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Fri. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Funded by: Private donations.

Publications: Lending Library Lifeglow (large print), Young and Alive (large print and braille), Encounter (talking magazine, cassette), Christian Record (braille), and others.

Additional information: American sister organization, CRS/USA, in Lincoln, Nebraska provides same services. 27 camps combined.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Large variety of Christian inspirational materials from various denominations. Provides free inspirational magazine in most alternate formats.

Community Outreach Programs: Representatives across Canada and United States contact blind and visually impaired individuals to provide personal services and liaison with community resources.

Counseling: Offers Bible study using alternate format materials (braille, large print, and audio).

Information and Referral: Provides referral to other community programs and services.

Library: Maintains large circulating library of cassette tapes with 40 subject areas including music-related, teen topics, senior interest, adventure and travel, history.

Foundation Fighting Blindness (Canada)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Information/referral center
- Research organization

60 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 703

Toronto, ON M5T 1N4

Tel: (416) 360-4200

(416) 360-0060 (Fax)

(800) 461-3331 (Toll-Free) (Canada only)

www.ffb.ca

E-mail: info@ffb.ca

Sharon Colle, National Executive Director, (416)

360-4200 Ext. #28, scolle@ffb.ca

Elizabeth A Hurdman, Manager, Research &

Information Programs, (416) 360-4200 Ext. #25,

ehurdman@ffb.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1974.

Mission: To support and promote research directed to finding the causes, treatments and ultimately the cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration and related retinal diseases and to communicate that information to our constituents.

County/District where located: Province of Ontario.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Publications: Information brochures: Retinitis Pigmentosa and Related Retinal Dystrophies, Your Guide to Retinitis Pigmentosa: Information and Resources, newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information about the latest findings regarding the causes, treatments, and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and related retinal disease.

John Milton Society for the Blind in Canada (JMS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer

40 St. Clair Avenue East Suite 202

Toronto, ON M4T 1M9

Tel: (416) 960-3953 (Local)

(416) 960-3570 (Fax)

www.jmsblind.ca

E-mail: bbrown@jmsblind.ca

Rev. Barry R. Brown, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1970.

Mission: To provide spiritual material in alternate formats to blind, deaf-blind, and visually impaired persons of all ages.

County/District where located: Canada.

Geographic area served: Canada. USA on request.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, blind or deaf-blind persons.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Budget: \$80,000.

Clients served annually: 2000.

Staff: Currently 1 part-time director and a number of volunteers.

International services or programs offered: Yes.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: InSight (bi-monthly large-print newspaper), InTouch (quarterly braille newspaper), InSound (bi-monthly two-track audio cassette magazine).

Additional information: JMS was founded by Helen Keller in 1928 in New York City. In 1970 an independent organization with the blessing of Helen Keller was founded in Canada under the name The John Milton Society for the Blind in Canada. In 2001 The John Milton Society for the Blind in the USA ceased operations and JMS in Canada provides services to clients in the USA upon request.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Ecumenical articles from the Canadian Church Press.

Library: Maintains tape-lending library of music, sermons, bible studies, biographies, and devotions for adults, children, and teens.

National Broadcast Reading Service (NBRS)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Radio reading station

150 Laird Drive Annex

Toronto, ON M4G 3V7

Tel: (800) 567-6755

(416) 422-4222

(416) 422-1633 (Fax)

www.voiceprintcanada.com

E-mail: nbrs@nbrscanada.com

Robert S. Trimbee, President,

btrimbee@nbrscanada.com

Heather Lusignan, Director, Administration,

hlusignan@nbrscanada.com

Arlene Patterson, Managing Director, VoicePrint,

apatterson@nbrscanada.com

John Stubbs, Director, Technical Operations, (416)
422-4545, (416) 422-4847 (Fax),
jstubbs@nbrscanada.com
Robert J. Trimbee, Manager, AudioVision Canada, (416)
422-4847 (Fax), rtrimbee@nbrscanada.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access to visual media for people with visual restrictions.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Ontario.

Geographic area served: Canada and USA.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Publications: Annual Report.

Additional information: Reading

Service—VoicePrint—has regional offices in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Vancouver.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Reading Services to older persons.

Assistive Products: Described movies in video, audiocassette and CD formats available for sale online and on site.

Audiodescription: Offers concise and unobtrusive description of the visual elements of a film or video product. Offers a large selection of described movies on video and audiocassette.

Reading Services: VoicePrint broadcasts readings of full text newspaper and magazine articles, columns and feature stories from more than a hundred publications. Distributed via cable on the S.A.P. of CBC Newsworld and via direct-to-home satellite services on an audio channel.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Calgary: VoicePrint Alberta, 1010 First Avenue, NE, Suite 304, Calgary, AB T2E 7W7

Ottawa: VoicePrint Ottawa, 116 Lisgar Street, Suite 703, Ottawa, ON K2P 0C2

Vancouver: VoicePrint British Columbia, 119 West Pender Street, Suite 416, Vancouver, BC V6B 1S5

Winnipeg: VoicePrint Manitoba, 2-150 Goulet Street, Winnipeg, MB R2H 0R7

Operation Eyesight Universal (OEU)

4 Parkdale Crescent NW
Calgary, AB T2N 3T8
Tel: (403) 283-6323 (Local)
(403) 270-1899 (Fax)
(800) 585-8265 (Toll-Free) (In Canada only)
www.giftofsight.com
E-mail: info@operationeyesight.ca
Pat Ferguson, President/CEO,
fergusonp@operationeyesight.ca

Stephen Faul, Vice President, Fund Development and Regional Offices, fauls@operationeyesight.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1963.

Mission: To provide international leadership and encouragement in the development and funding of self-sustaining blindness prevention and sight restoration programs for those people in greatest need.

Geographic area served: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, Peru, El Salvador, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Publications: Gift of Sight (quarterly newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Health/Medical: Provides diagnosis and treatment of eye conditions.

Professional Training: Maintains training facilities overseas to train ophthalmologists, nurses, and support staff.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Montreal: C.P./P.O. Box 180,
Succursale/NDG/Branch, Montreal, PQ H4A 3P5,
montreal@operationeyesight.ca.

North Vancouver: 1-252 East 1st Street, North Vancouver, BC V7L 1B3,
vancouver@operationeyesight.ca.

Scarborough: 2100 Ellesmere Road, Suite 323,
Scarborough, ON M1H 3B7,
toronto@operationeyesight.ca.

VIEWS for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

Burlington Central Lions Club
471 Pearl Street
Burlington, ON L7N 2W5
Tel: (905) 637-9006 (Local)

Susan Wolak, Contact, swolak@cogeco.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To function as a membership organization that strives to ensure that children who are visually impaired have the opportunity to reach their full potential and that the families of these children receive the information, resources, and support that they need.

Geographic area served: Ontario.

Eligibility requirements: Parents of blind or visually impaired children.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Helps families of children with visual impairments find information, resources, and support in their communities. Advocates for blind and visually impaired children and their families.

Support Groups: Holds a monthly parent support group meeting in Burlington which offers support, information, a toy and resource library as well as social events for families of blind and visually impaired children.

Alberta

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Alberta Learning Materials Resource Centre for the
Visually Impaired
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Alberta/NWT/Nunavut Division

Libraries

Alberta Community Development: Arts and Libraries
Branch
Alberta Learning Materials Resource Centre for the
Visually Impaired
Stanley A. Milner Library, Edmonton Public Library

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Alberta Sports and Recreation Association for the Blind

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Alberta Association of Optometrists

National Organizations

Operation Eyesight Universal

Provincial Educational Services

Alberta Learning: Special Programs

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Alberta Human Resources and Employment

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Alberta/NWT/Nunavut Division

Alberta Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

10720-113 Street
Edmonton, AB T5H 3HB
Tel: (800) 272-8843 (Western Canada only)
(780) 451-6824
(780) 452-9918 (Fax)
www.optometrists.ab.ca
E-mail: alberta.association@optometrists.ab.ca
Peggy Sloan, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote excellence in the practice of optometry, enhance public recognition of optometry as the primary vision care provider in Alberta, and to advance the interests of the profession.

Geographic area served: Province of Alberta.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Apprises membership of latest developments in the field of optometry.

Alberta Community Development: Arts and Libraries Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

10405 Jasper Avenue
901 Standard Life Centre
Edmonton, AB T5J 4R7
Tel: (780) 427-6315
(780) 422-9132 (Fax)
www.cd.gov.ab.ca/building_communities/public_library/systems/index.asp
E-mail: libraries@gov.ab.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Geographic area served: Province of Alberta.

Eligibility requirements: Visual or physical impairment. Library membership required.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Facilitates the development of public library services for all eligible print handicapped persons in the province.

Alberta Human Resources and Employment

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Provincial rehabilitation services**

324 Legislature Building
10800 97th Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
Tel: (800) 661-3753 (Career Information Hotline for the nearest Canada-Alberta Service Centre or Career Development Centre)
(780) 415-4800
(780) 422-9556 (Fax)
www.gov.ab.ca/hre/
E-mail: hre.webmaster@gov.ab.ca
Clint Dunford, Minister

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide access to adult learning and employment opportunities by addressing the barriers created by a disability.

Geographic area served: Alberta.

Eligibility requirements: Clients must have a disability that creates a barrier to employment; be an Alberta resident; be 18 years old, a grade 12 graduate, or out of the school system for at least one year.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides workplace supports and assistive technology to assist individuals in making a successful transition to the workplace or to maintain employment.

Alberta Learning Materials Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired (MRC)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Alternate media producer**

■ **Library**

12360 142nd Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5L 4X9
Tel: (780) 427-2767 (8:15 AM-4:30 PM)
(780) 427-6683 (Fax)
www.lrc.learning.gov.ab.ca

Irene M. Miller, Supervisor, (780) 427-5239,
irene.miller@gov.ab.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To contribute to quality education for Alberta students by helping schools meet the needs of their students who are visually impaired or perceptually disabled. To promote the cooperation and sharing of

resources with the Department of Education Special Materials Resource Centres in other Canadian provinces.

Established: 1971.

Geographic area served: Alberta, with inter-library loan agreements with Canadian Resource Centers for the visually impaired.

Eligibility requirements: Blind or visually impaired students who have been assessed by educational consultants for the visually impaired. Perceptually disabled students have individualized program plans (IPPS) stating the requirement of audiotapes as an accommodation.

Ages served: 5 to 20.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:15 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair ramp.

Clients served annually: 650.

Staff: 18.5 full-time employees. Library staff; audio, braille, large print, e-text production staff; assistive technology service and repair.

Fee structure: Free service to schools with students who are visually impaired. Cost recovery program for schools with students who are perceptually disabled.

Publications: MRC Newsletter and New Resources, MRC Catalogue and Supplement, Equipment Catalogue, Kits Subject Catalogue, Catalogue of Consumable Items.

Additional information: MRC is a unit of the Learning Resources Centre, Alberta Learning.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Supports authorized educational programs through provision of alternate-format materials, kits, and equipment to visually impaired students, and reading materials for professionals working with these students.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:** Recreational reading materials.

Education Services: Assists Alberta schools in the delivery of programs to students with visual impairments or perceptual disabilities by loaning alternate-format material or by selling, on a cost-recovery basis, selected curriculum resources in audiotape format.

Preschool: Schools may borrow alternate-format materials, kits, and equipment for preschool children who are provincially funded and/or for whom individual program plans have been authorized by regional offices of education.

Recreation: Provides recreational reading materials in special formats to registered students who are visually impaired.

Alberta Learning: Special Programs

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

11160 Jasper Avenue
10th Floor East
Edmonton, AB T5K 0L2
Tel: (780) 422-6326
(780) 422-2039 (Fax)
www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/specialneeds/
Rick Hayes, Director, RickHayes@learning.gov.ab.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Province of Alberta.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Works with/refers to Early Childhood Services.

Education Services: Monitors the provision of educational services to children and youths with disabilities. Oversees home education programs and native (aboriginal) education division.

Alberta Sports and Recreation Association for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

P.O. Box 85056
Alberta Park Postal Outlet
Calgary, AB T2A 7R7
Tel: (403) 262-5332
(403) 765-7221 (Fax)
www.asrab.ab.ca/index.htm
E-mail: asrab@telusplanet.net
Susan Acorn, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote sports and recreational activities for blind and visually impaired persons.

County/District where located: Province of Alberta.

Geographic area served: Province of Alberta.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind (CNIB card).

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible facility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Offers a wide variety of sports and other recreational activities for legally blind: goalball, lawn bowling, 5-pin bowling, camping, canoeing, white water rafting, hiking, houseboating, theatrical presentations, concerts.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Alberta/NWT/Nunavut Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

12010 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 0P3
Tel: (800) 365-2642
(780) 488-4871
(780) 482-2791 (TDD/TTY)
(780) 482-0017 (Fax)
www.cnib.ca
E-mail: alberta@cnib.ca

William J. McKeown, Executive Director,
alberta@cnib.ca

Harold Grace, Director, Development, alberta@cnib.ca
Cathy McFee, Assistant Executive Director, (403)
266-8831, (403) 265-5029 (Fax), alberta@cnib.ca
Ellie Shuster, Director, Communications,
alberta@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: Alberta, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: No cost to clients.

Publications: Vision (annual magazine), Braille Kit for Parents, Insight newsletters (divisional, bi-annual). Publications available in English, French, audiotape, braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Assistive Products, Computer Training, Information and Referral, Orientation and Mobility to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses clients for vocational, rehabilitative, high- and low-tech visual aids, and mobility training needs.

Assistive Products: Operates the CNIB Technical Aids stores, which is staffed by professional technicians who provide consultations and demonstrations of a variety

of high- and low-tech devices. These devices vary from simple needle threaders to computers with voice output, large print computer screens, printers that produce braille text and machines that scan the printed word and repeat it back to the user.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Has a summer reading program.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational and other materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides deaf-blind outreach services.

Computer Training: Computer training courses in Windows, Internet and E-mail, Microsoft Office and adaptive technology are available to all age groups. Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Available to professionals working with individuals who are blind/visually impaired.

Counseling: Counseling services available.

Education Services: College and university preparatory training provided to students who are blind/visually impaired. Affiliated Toronto CNIB Library transcribes educational textbooks into braille and tape formats.

Employment: Offers employment counseling, career development, referral to on-the-job training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services to CNIB programs and external community resources.

Library: Provides library services for blind/visually impaired clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training in how to travel safely and independently in familiar and unfamiliar environments. Skills taught include sighted guide techniques, white cane skills, street crossings, using public transit, sensory development, using cardinal directions, and using optical aids for mobility.

Parent Assistance: Informational materials (handbooks, braille kits) provided to parents of blind/visually impaired children. Offers ongoing support to parents raising children who are blind.

Reading Services: Provides volunteers for home-based reading services of local or other newspapers.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation, sight enhancement, training in the use of technical devices.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Calgary: 15 Colonel Baker Place NE, Calgary, AB T2E 4Z3

Operation Eyesight Universal

See Canadian National Organizations.

Stanley A. Milner Library, Edmonton Public Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

7 Sir Winston Churchill Square

Edmonton, AB T5J 2V4

Tel: (780) 496-1888

(780) 496-1885 (Fax)

www.epl.ca/

Linda Cook, Director, (780) 496-7050, (780) 496-7097 (Fax), lcook@epl.ca

Judy Moore, Manager, Library Access, Library Access Division, jmoore@epl.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To connect the people of Edmonton to the knowledge and cultures of the world.

Established: 1973.

Geographic area served: City of Edmonton and surrounding communities.

Eligibility requirements: Not restricted to legally blind persons.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 2 full-time, 4 part-time.

Fee structure: \$12.00 (Canadian) membership, fee waived according to need.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille and Reading Instruction: Literacy materials provided for individuals or organizations.

Library: Provides talking books, descriptive videos, and ASL videos for hearing impaired children.

Volunteers deliver materials to individuals physically unable to visit.

British Columbia

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

The Braille Superstore
Provincial Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired

Libraries

British Columbia College and Institute Library Services
Public Library InterLINK

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Canadian Blind Sports Association
Cross Country Ski Program for the Blind and Visually Impaired

National Organizations

Canadian Blind Sports Association

National Publishers

The Braille Superstore

Postsecondary Institutions

University of British Columbia: Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology and Special Education

Provincial Educational Services

British Columbia Ministry of Education: Initiatives Department, Equity, Diversity and School Health Unit

Provincial Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

British Columbia Ministry of Human Resources: Employment Program for Persons with Disabilities

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: British Columbia/Yukon Division

The Braille Superstore

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- National publisher

88 Captain Morgans Boulevard
Nanaimo, BC V9R 6R1
Tel: (800) 987-1231
(250) 753-3093
(800) 985-1231 (Fax)
www.braillebookstore.com/
E-mail: info@braillebookstore.com
Craig Faris, Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: International.
Ages served: 0 and above.
Additional information: Publisher of transcribed-to-braille and original braille books for adults and children.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Distributes braille books, cards, and other materials available through telephone order. Offers toys and daily living aids for blind and visually impaired persons. Products for sale online.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Fiction, nonfiction, travel, inspirational, mysteries. Also acts as on-demand braille service.

British Columbia College and Institute Library Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library
Langara College Library
Attention CILS
100 West 49th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Y 2Z6

Tel: (604) 323-5237
 (604) 323-5544 (Fax)
www.langara.bc.ca/cils
 E-mail: cils@langara.bc.ca

Atsuko Barbour, CILS Supervisor
 Stephen Blaeser, CILS Librarian
 Mary Anne Epp, Director of Contract Administration,
 Library Contract Services, (604) 323-5627, (604)
 323-5577 (Fax), maepp@langara.bc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide alternate format resources to students and employees who have print impairments in a format appropriate to their information needs.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Province of British Columbia.

Geographic area served: Primarily British Columbia. Will lend worldwide.

Eligibility requirements: Documented print impairment and accommodation required.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:15 PM.

Fee structure: Free to primary student population, reciprocal arrangements with agencies.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Provides educational materials in alternate formats for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Information and Referral: Provides clearinghouse, information resources.

Library: Provides library services for blind or visually impaired students. Provides reference services.

Professional Training: Offers workshops for professionals.

British Columbia Ministry of Education: Initiatives Department, Equity, Diversity and School Health Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

620 Superior Street
 Victoria, BC V8W 9H3
 Tel: (800) 663-7867
 (250) 356-7767
 (250) 356-6161 (Fax)
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/special/
 E-mail: educ.diversityandequity@gems1.gov.bc.ca
 Bill Standeven, Coordinator, Special Education,
bill.standeven@gems3.gov.bc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Province of British Columbia.

Geographic area served: Province of British Columbia.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Sets standards, monitors programs and services, technical trends and changes, student enrolment trends and participates in long-term planning and priority setting for students with special needs with IEPs (Individual Education Plans).

British Columbia Ministry of Human Resources: Employment Program for Persons with Disabilities (EPPD)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

P.O. Box 9937
 STN PROV GOVT
 Victoria, BC V8W 9R2
 Tel: (250) 356-5191
 (250) 952-6450 (Fax)
www.mhr.gov.bc/pwd/eppd.htm

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: British Columbia.

Eligibility requirements: Must be British Columbia resident and at least sixteen years of age.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Provides support in employment-related activities including part-time, full-time, self-employment or voluntary employment. Offers a full range of services, tools and supports such as job training and placement, technical equipment, physical accommodation and follow-up workplace support.

Canadian Blind Sports Association (CBSA)

See Canadian National Organizations.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: British Columbia/Yukon Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

100-5055 Joyce Street
 Vancouver, BC V5R 6B2
 Tel: (604) 431-2121
 (604) 431-2099 (Fax)
www.cnib.ca
 E-mail: webmaster@cnib.ca
 Janet Hanevelt, Executive Director, (604) 431-2001,
janet.hanevelt@cnib.ca
 Michael Nicholson, Service Manager, (604) 431-2171,
michael.nicholson@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a

consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: British Columbia and Yukon.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: No cost to clients.

Publications: Vision (bi-annual magazine), Braille Kit for Parents, newsletters (divisional, bi-annual).

Publications available in English, French, audiotape, braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Education Services to older persons.

Assessment: Assesses clients for vocational, rehabilitative and mobility training needs. Children are referred by Sunny Hill Health Center for Children.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers a Braille Literacy Summer Program.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Available to professionals working with individuals who are blind/visually impaired.

Counseling: Counseling services available.

Education Services: Maintains a scholarship catalogue available for students who are blind/visually impaired.

Employment: Offers employment counseling, career development, referral to on-the-job training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Library: Provides library services for blind/visually impaired clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Preschool: Offers programs for children birth to 5 and their parents. Informational materials (handbooks, braille kits) provided to parents of blind/visually impaired children.

Reading Services: Provides volunteers for home-based reading services of local or other newspapers.

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation, sight enhancement, and training in the use of technical devices.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Kelowna: 247 Lawrence Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 6L2

Prince George: 100-490 Quebec Street, Prince George, BC V2L 5N5

Victoria: 2340 Richmond Avenue, Victoria, BC V8R 4R9

Cross Country Ski Program for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

c/o Annar Jacobsen

P.O. Box 1216

Logan Lake, BC B0K 1W0

Tel: (250) 523-2403

www.members.shaw.ca/sflCanada

Annar Jacobsen, President, annarj@telus.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fee structure: Registration fee for each event.

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Promotes and arranges cross-country skiing, always with a one-on-one instructor, for blind, visually impaired individuals. Events are usually held in British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan.

Provincial Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired (PRCVI)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Provincial educational services

#106-1750 West 75th Avenue

Vancouver, BC V6P 6G2

Tel: (604) 266-3699

(604) 261-0778 (Fax)

www.prcvi.org

Fred Poon, Manager, fpoon@prcvi.org

Anne Wadsworth, Outreach Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide leadership, information, training, and consultation to support school districts' goals of equitable access and to enhance learning opportunities for students with visual impairments.

Established: 1978.

County/District where located: Canada.

Geographic area served: British Columbia & Yukon Territory.

Eligibility requirements: Blind and visually impaired students, print-disabled students.

Ages served: 5 to 19.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Staff: 11.

Publications: PRCVI Newsletter (5 times per school year).

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Provides the following equipment for loan: braillewriters, variable-speed tape recorders, talking calculators monoculars, magnifiers, biology models, tactile maps, diagrams and more.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** School textbooks, provincially adopted books.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers consultation to school districts.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation to school districts upon written request by directors of special education.

Education Services: Serves kindergarten to grade 12.

Library: Maintains professional library containing videos, texts.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training.

Public Library InterLINK

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

c/o Burnaby Public Library - Kingsway Branch

7252 Kingsway

Burnaby, BC V5E 1G3

Tel: (604) 517-8441

(604) 517-8410 (Fax)

www.interlink.andornot.com/

E-mail: plilink@moon.bcpl.gov.bc.ca

Colleen Smith, Audiobooks Coordinator,

csmith@moon.bcpl.gov.bc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide audiobooks, through member libraries, to people unable to use conventional print materials because of a visual or physical disability.

Geographic area served: Lower mainland, Province of British Columbia.

Eligibility requirements: Any print handicap (visual, physical or perceptual).

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Funded by: State funds.

Publications: Audiobooks Catalogue (bi-annual).

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides audiobooks, 2-track cassette tapes through member libraries.

University of British Columbia: Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology and Special Education

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institutions

2125 Main Mall

Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Tel: (604) 822-2235

(604) 822-8229 (TDD/TTY)

(604) 822-3302 (Fax)

www.educ.ubc.ca/

E-mail: ecps.gradinfo@ubc.ca

M. Cay Holbrook, Associate Professor,

cay.holbrook@ubc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide graduate personnel preparation for teachers of students with visual impairments.

County/District where located: British Columbia Province.

Funded by: Public funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Master's degree in special education (education of children with blindness, visual impairment or visual/multiple disabilities), graduate program for teachers of visually impaired children, doctoral degree. Distance education (web-based) option is used for a portion of coursework in graduate degree program.

Manitoba

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Manitoba Department of Education and Youth: Special Materials Services

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Manitoba Blind Sports Association

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Manitoba Association of Optometrists

Provincial Educational Services

Manitoba Department of Education and Youth: Special Materials Services

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Manitoba Family Services and Housing

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Manitoba Division

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Manitoba Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1080 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3G 3M3
Tel: (800) 552-4893 (Manitoba only)
(204) 774-5421
(204) 775-9802 (TDD/TTY)
(204) 775-5090 (Fax)
www.cnib.ca
E-mail: webmaster@cnib.ca

Dennis Tottenham, Executive Director, Saskatchewan & Manitoba Divisions, (204) 789-0963,
dennis.tottenham@cnib.ca

Lynn Latta, Director of Government Relations & Advocacy, Saskatchewan & Manitoba Divisions,
(306) 667-2236, (306) 955-6224 (Fax),
lynn.latta@cnib.ca

Delcy-Ann Selymes, Director of Rehabilitation,
Saskatchewan & Manitoba Divisions, (204) 789-0964,
delcy.selymes@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a

consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: Manitoba.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible facilities, braille and tactile signage.

Staff: Social workers, rehabilitation teachers, O&M instructors, career counselors, vision rehabilitation nurses.

Publications: Services handbook and annual report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: See descriptions for the following services: Computer Training, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Counseling, Information and Referral, Library Services, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services.

Assessment: Provides assessment at initial registration and triage and referral to services.

Assistive Products: Maintains a store that carries a wide variety of adaptive and technical aids.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape).

Computer Training: Keyboarding, access technology, Internet usage, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers individual and employer high-tech assistance.

Counseling: Provides counseling to individuals and families to assist in the adjustment to vision loss.

Early Intervention: Occupational therapists assess blind and visually impaired preschoolers, develop individualized therapy plans, and work with parents.

Employment: Provides vocational and employment-related services to individuals to determine career goals and develop or learn new skills, including job search techniques.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to appropriate CNIB professionals or other community resources.

Library: Through the CNIB National Library, books, magazines, and other material in braille, e-text, DAISY format and audiocassette are circulated by mail free of charge to library users. Additional resources such as descriptive videos, braille music, tactile drawings, and print/braille books are available while newspapers and magazines can be accessed via computer or telephone.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and recommends low vision devices. Assists individuals to make use of their remaining vision with the use of adaptive devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training for safe and independent travel in the home and community.

Parent Assistance: Provides information and support to parents. Support provided to professionals in the community who assist parents of blind and visually impaired children.

Professional Training: Training provided to community professionals upon request.

Recreation: Offers diverse recreational programs for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Examples include choir, dancing, fiber arts, water sports, youth camp, youth groups and outings.

Rehabilitation: Provides a range of rehabilitation services that include orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, low vision services, counseling, employment, technology training and occupational therapy.

LOCAL OFFICES

Brandon: 354 10th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 4G1

Thompson: #303 - 83 Churchill Drive, Thompson, MB R8N 0L5

Manitoba Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

200B-392 Academy Road

Winnipeg, MB R3N 0B8

Tel: (204) 943-9811

(204) 943-1208 (Fax)

Carol Loyd, Executive Director

Lorne Ryall, Registrar

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1909.

Manitoba Blind Sports Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

200 Main Street

Winnipeg, MB R3C 4M2

Tel: (204) 925-5694

(204) 925-5703 (Fax)

www.blindsport.mb.ca/

E-mail: blindsport@shawbiz.ca

Cathy Derewianchuk, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To encourage participation in sport at all levels of skill and ability by blind and visually impaired Manitobans, and to develop athletes of a national and international calibre.

Established: 1976.

Geographic area served: Province of Manitoba.

Eligibility requirements: Visual impairment.

Fee structure: Basic membership fee plus program fee.

Publications: Semi-annual newsletter.

SERVICES OFFERED

Recreation: Encourages participation in sports at all levels of skill and ability by the blind and visually impaired.

Manitoba Department of Education and Youth: Special Materials Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Provincial educational services

215-1181 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, MB R3G 0T3

Tel: (204) 945-7842

(204) 945-7912 (Fax)

www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/blind

Donna P. Passey, Provincial Coordinator, Services to Students Who Are Blind/Visually Impaired,
Manitoba Education and Training,
dpassey@gov.mb.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Province of Manitoba .

Geographic area served: Province of Manitoba.

Funded by: State funds.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational materials.

Education Services: Provides itinerant teaching services to all visually impaired students in school districts and instructional materials and textbooks for students who are blind or visually impaired.

Manitoba Family Services and Housing

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ **Provincial rehabilitation services**

219-114 Garry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4V6

Tel: (204) 945-1634

www.gov.mb.ca/fs/

E-mail: fadmin@gov.mb.ca

Christine Melnick, Minister

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Province of Manitoba.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Counsels, refers, and aids families of children with disabilities through its Child Development Program.

Employment: Assists, through its Vocational Rehabilitation Program, eligible adults with mental, physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities. Contact (204) 945-4974 or e-mail comliv@fs.gov.mb.ca.

Rehabilitation: Administers grants and contributions program to help fund services and integration efforts for blind and visually impaired and other disabled persons.

New Brunswick

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, New Brunswick Department of Education, Student Services

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: New Brunswick Division

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, New Brunswick Department of Education, Student Services

Information/Referral Centers

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, New Brunswick Department of Education, Student Services

Libraries

Fredericton Public Library Talking Book Service
New Brunswick Public Library Service

Membership Organizations (Professional)

New Brunswick Association of Optometrists

Provincial Educational Services

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, New Brunswick Department of Education, Student Services

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

New Brunswick Family and Community Services Department

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: New Brunswick Division

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, New Brunswick Department of Education, Student Services (APSEA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Infant/preschool agency
- Information/referral center
- Provincial educational services

P.O. Box 6000
250 King Street
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
Tel: (506) 444-4737
(902) 424-0543 (Fax)
www.gov.nb.ca

John McConnell, APSEA New Brunswick Provincial Supervisor, Services for Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired, john.mcconnell@gnb.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To have each student develop the attributes needed to be a lifelong learner, to achieve personal fulfillment, and to contribute to a productive, just, and democratic society.

County/District where located: Province of New Brunswick.

Geographic area served: New Brunswick.

Eligibility requirements: Legally blind (20/200 or less in better eye) or partially sighted (20/70 or less in better eye).

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Public school hours.

Accessibility: Accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Short-term education programs for students provided at the APSEA centre in Halifax Nova Scotia.

Funded by: Government grants, state funds.

Staff: 150-160.

Additional information: APSEA provides materials, education and training for students who are blind or visually impaired and their public school teachers through a network of trained itinerant teachers that serve local school districts.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision assessments, educational assessments, career planning assessments.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** School materials, reading materials.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing, braille computer devices.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides consultation in orientation and mobility, preschool and transition services, itinerant teacher consultation, and support for public school teachers, schools, school districts.

Counseling: Offers student and family counseling services for school-age children and families served by APSEA in New Brunswick.

Early Intervention: Preschool consultant works with provincial health community services, early intervention teams.

Education Services: Monitors the provision of educational services to children and youths with disabilities. Provides consultant and itinerant teacher direct support and teaching of disability-specific skills to school-age children.

Employment: Provides support for summer employment for school-age children.

Information and Referral: Refers to school and community agencies.

Library: A library of alternate format materials and professional resources is available through APSEA Resource Centre in Halifax.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up.

Parent Assistance: Provided by preschool consultants and itinerant teachers.

Preschool: Provides consultation and itinerant teacher support for local community day care centers and preschools attended by children served by APSEA.

Professional Training: In-school system as required, including sponsorship of a master's level course in education for teachers of students who are blind or visually impaired.

Recreation: Sponsors summer and weekend recreational camps for children and youth.

Rehabilitation: Offers transition programs for students leaving high school.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Halifax: APSEA, 5940 South Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S6, bvi@apsea.ca

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: New Brunswick Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Rehabilitation agency

231 Saunders Street
Fredericton, NB E3B 1N5

Tel: (800) 270-2642

(506) 458-0060

(506) 458-9219 (Fax)

www.cnib.ca

Duncan P. Williams, Executive Director, New Brunswick, duncan.williams@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: New Brunswick.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Vision (bi-annual magazine), Braille Kit for Parents, newsletters (divisional, bi-annual).

Publication available in English, French, audiotape, braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses clients for vocational, rehabilitative, English language, mobility training needs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Has a summer reading program.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational and other materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides deaf-blind outreach services.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Available to professionals working with individuals who are blind/visually impaired.

Counseling: Counseling services available.

Education Services: College and university preparatory training provided to students who are blind/visually impaired. Affiliated Toronto CNIB Library transcribes educational textbooks into braille and tape formats.

Employment: Offers employment counseling, career development, referral to on-the-job training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Library: Provides library services for blind/visually impaired clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Informational materials (handbooks, braille kits) provided to parents of blind/visually impaired children.

Reading Services: Local or other newspapers (home-based service manned by volunteers).

Rehabilitation: Provides vocational rehabilitation, sight enhancement, and training in the use of technical devices.

Fredericton Public Library Talking Book Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

4 Carleton Street
Fredericton, NB E3B 5P4
Tel: (506) 460-2800
(506) 460-2801 (Fax)

Joanne Hamilton-Barry, Acting Regional Director,
joanne.hamilton@gnb.ca
Deidre Sorensen, Administrative Services, Talking
Books, deidre.sorensen@gnb.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

Geographic area served: York, Sunbury, Queens, Carlton, Victoria, and parts of Northumberland Counties in New Brunswick.

Eligibility requirements: Physical or visual handicap, signature of medical authority.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Publications: Catalogue.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Circulates primarily unabridged books recorded on cassette tape for the use of people who cannot read print material.

New Brunswick Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

364 York Street, Suite 230
Fredericton, NB E3B 3P7
Tel: (506) 458-8759
(506) 450-1271 (Fax)
www.nbao.optometry.net/
E-mail: nbao@nbao.optometry.net

New Brunswick Family and Community Services Department

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

Sartain MacDonald Building
551 King Street
Fredericton, NB E3B 1E7
Tel: (506) 453-2001
(506) 453-7478 (Fax)
www.gnb.ca/0017/index-e.asp
Michelle Bedard, Emergency Social Services
Coordinator, Native Child and Family Services/First
Nations Agencies, (506) 453-6381,
michelle.bedard@gnb.ca
Don Ferguson, Deputy Minister, don.ferguson@gnb.ca
Helene Moffatt, Deputy Minister's Assistant,
helene.moffat@gnb.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Province of New Brunswick.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Administers grants and contributing program to help fund rehabilitation services and integration efforts for blind and visually impaired and other disabled persons. Provides funding for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB).

In-Home Services: Offers a range of in-home support services to assist clients with the tasks of everyday living.

Parent Assistance: Works with parents/legal guardians in providing the extraordinary care and support required to meet the special developmental needs of their severely disabled child.

New Brunswick Public Library Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

250 King Street
Place 2000
Fredericton, NB E3B 9M9
Tel: (506) 453-2354
(506) 444-4064 (Fax)

www.gnb.ca/0003/index-e.asp

E-mail: Sylvette.Basque@gnb.ca

Sylvie Nadeau, Executive Director, New Brunswick
Public Library Service

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1954.

Geographic area served: Province of New Brunswick.

Eligibility requirements: Citizen of province.

Hours of operation: Varies: 65 separate facilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Offers Talking Books (full text and abridged), large-print, limited braille, limited Kurzweil, through local public libraries. Some in-home delivery and mail service.

Newfoundland

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Newfoundland and Labrador Division

Information/Referral Centers

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Newfoundland and Labrador Division

Libraries

Newfoundland Provincial Information and Library
Resources Board

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Newfoundland and Labrador Association of
Optometrists

Provincial Educational Services

Department of Education Student Support Services

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Department of Health and Community Services,
Province of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Human Resources, Labour and
Employment, Province of Newfoundland

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Newfoundland and Labrador Division

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Newfoundland and Labrador Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Information/referral center
- Rehabilitation agency

70 The Boulevard
St. John's, NL A1A 1K2
Tel: (800) 334-2642
(709) 754-1180
(709) 754-2018 (Fax)
www.cnib.ca
E-mail: webmaster@cnib.ca

Len Baker, Executive Director, Newfoundland and
Labrador Division, Len.Baker@cnib.ca
Sheila Clancey, Executive Assistant,
sheila.clancey@cnib.ca
Kelly Hatch, Manager, Client & Volunteer Services,
kelly.hatch@cnib.ca

Debbie Ryan, Community & Corporate Development
Officer, debbie.ryan@cnib.ca
Corrine Schumph, Manager, Fund Development,
corrine.schumph@cnib.ca
Tilly Vatcher, Director of Fund Development,
tilly.vatcher@cnib.ca
Theresa Whiffen, Manager, Accounting & Computer
Services, theresa.whiffen@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across
Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in
personal and social adjustment and to act as a
consultant and resource agency to the helping
professions, government departments, and private
industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: Newfoundland and Labrador.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: No cost to clients.

Publications: Vision (bi-annual magazine), Braille Kit for Parents, newsletters (divisional, bi-annual). Publications available in English, French, audiotape, braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses clients for vocational, rehabilitative, English language, mobility training needs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Has a summer reading program.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational and other materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Provides deaf-blind outreach services.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Available to professionals working with individuals who are blind/visually impaired.

Counseling: Counseling services available.

Education Services: College and university preparatory training provided to students who are blind/visually impaired. Affiliated Toronto CNIB Library transcribes educational textbooks into braille and tape formats.

Employment: Offers employment counseling, career development, referral to on-the-job training.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Library: Provides library services for blind/visually impaired clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Informational materials (handbooks, braille kits) provided to parents of blind/visually impaired children.

Reading Services: Provides volunteers for home-based reading services of local or other newspapers.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in sight enhancement, use of technical devices, vocational rehabilitation.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Corner Brook: 57 Humber Road, Corner Brook, NL A2H 1E7

Grand Falls-Windsor: 1A O'Neill Avenue, Box 442, Grand Falls-Windsor, NL A2A 2J8

Department of Education Student Support Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

P.O. Box 8700

St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Tel: (709) 729-0709

(709) 729-2096 (Fax)

www.gov.nl.ca/edu/dept/ssss_ps.htm

Brenda Smith, Director, brendasmith@gov.nl.ca

Glenda Truitt, Consultant/Itinerant Teacher, Blind Students, glendatruitt@gov.nl.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To ensure the fullest and best development in the most enhancing environment for all children of Newfoundland and Labrador.

County/District where located: Province of Newfoundland.

Geographic area served: Newfoundland and Labrador.

Eligibility requirements: Students with 20/70 vision or less in the better eye or vision field of 20 degrees or less.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: School year.

Accessibility: Accessible to all preschool and school-age children. Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 1 consultant for students who are blind/visually impaired placed within the Department of Education, 14 additional itinerant teachers placed in 10 provincial school districts.

Publications: Programming for Individual Needs: Teaching Children Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired, Using Technology to Enhance Student's Differing Abilities, Programming for Individual Needs: Physical Disabilities.

Additional information: Maintains ten regional board offices.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides assessments for preschool and school-age students with special needs in conjunction with school district personnel.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Consultation and technical assistance/information available to school district personnel.

Education Services: Monitors provision of educational services to children and youths with disabilities in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Information and Referral: Provides information about visual impairment and/or referral to Atlantic Provinces Resource Center for the Visually Impaired.

Preschool: Services are offered in child's home.

Professional Training: In-service training offered within the school districts.

Department of Health and Community Services, Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

Confederation Building

St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Tel: (709) 729-2436

www.gov.nf.ca/health/

E-mail: healthinfo@gov.nl.ca

Elizabeth Marshall, Minister

Alan Corbett, Manager, Adult Programs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional information: Together with the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment, administers grants and contributions program to help fund services and integration efforts for persons who are blind and visually impaired and other persons with disabilities.

Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment, Province of Newfoundland

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

3rd Floor West Block

Confederation Building

St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Tel: (709) 729-2480

www.gov.nl.ca/hrle

E-mail: hreweb@gov.nl.ca

Sharon Knott, Director, Employment and Career Services, (709) 729-3118

Brendan Mullaly, Director, Income Support, (709) 729-2665

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To be progressive, professional and flexible in working collaboratively with social, community and economic development partners to provide people with employment and income supports that respond to client needs and that are linked to the social, community and economic development objectives of the province.

Geographic area served: Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Employment: Supports and assists individuals to prepare for, attain and maintain employment by linking human resource and economic development. Has programs in place to assist people with a physical or mental disability to address the barriers in the labour market. Services available include: Career and Job

Search Information Services, Employment Counseling Services (for eligible clients), Labour Market Agreement for Persons with Disabilities (LMAPD), Employment (wage subsidy) Programs, Community Partnerships.

Financial Assistance: Offers the Income Support Program, which is responsible for planning and developing income support policies for citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador. Provides basic assistance for food, clothing, shelter and other personal needs, such as medical transportation, vision care, dentures, municipal taxes, fuel allowance, special diets, comforts allowance for those in residential settings including hospitals and transition houses, blind persons allowance, single parent supplement, burials and special needs assistance; emergency and disaster services when required by clients and communities; prescription drugs and medical equipment and supplies; and school books. Assists clients or members of the general public to obtain support orders or agreements on behalf of dependent children.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other divisions, departments or agencies when clients are identified as having a specific need such as employment services and personal or family counseling.

Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 8042

St. John's, NL A1B 3M7

Tel: (709) 739-8284 (Local)

(709) 739-8378 (Fax)

www.nao.opto.ca/contact/

E-mail: nlao@nl.rogers.com

Ed Breen, Executive Director

Newfoundland Provincial Information and Library Resources Board

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

48 St. George's Avenue

Stephenville, NL A2N 1K9

Tel: (709) 643-0900

(709) 643-0925 (Fax)

www.nlpubliclibraries.ca

Shawn Tetford, Executive Director, (709) 643-0902,
shawntetford@nlpubliclibraries.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1935.

Geographic area served: The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Hours of operation: Site Specific.

Funded by: Client fees, government grants, private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Provides administrative support to 96 libraries in Newfoundland with regard to resources, including those used by blind/visually impaired persons.

Collaborates with Canadian National Institute for the Blind in areas impacting upon blind or visually impaired library patrons.

Northwest Territories

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Department of Education, Culture and Employment:
Northwest Territories, Public Library Services

Provincial Educational Services

Department of Education, Culture and Employment:
Early Childhood and School Services

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Northwest Territories Department of Health and Social
Services

Department of Education, Culture and Employment: Early Childhood and School Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
Tel: (867) 873-7678
(867) 873-0109 (Fax)
www.siksik.learnnet.nt.ca/index.html
E-mail: webmaster_mailbox@learnnet.nt.ca
Pamela Petten, Director, Pamela_Petten@gov.nt.ca
Leah Von Hagen, Coordinator, Early Childhood and
School Services, l_von_hagen@ece.learnnet.nt.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To invest in and provide for the development of the people of the Northwest Territories, enabling them to reach their full potential and to lead fulfilled lives.

County/District where located: Northwest Territories.

Geographic area served: Northern Canada.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Monitors the provision of educational services to children and youth with disabilities.

Department of Education, Culture and Employment: Northwest Territories, Public Library Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

75 Woodland Drive
Hay River, NT X0E 1G1
Tel: (866) 297-0232 (Available within Northwest Territories only)
(867) 874-6531 (Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.)
(867) 874-3321 (Fax)
www.nwtpls.gov.nt.ca
A.J. MacDonald, Territorial Librarian,
sandy_macdonald@gov.nt.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Northwest Territories.

Geographic area served: Northwest Territories.

Fee structure: Free.

Publications: None.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Administers 9 libraries in Canada's Northwest Territories that provide talking books and large-print (public access terminals) to visually impaired or blind patrons.

**Northwest Territories Department of Health
and Social Services**

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Provincial rehabilitation services**

P.O. Box 1320

Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Tel: (867) 873-7738

(867) 873-7706 (Fax)

www.hlthss.gov.nt.ca/

Michael Miltenberger, Minister,

Michael_Miltenberger@gov.nt.ca**SERVICES OFFERED****Rehabilitation:** Offers a broad range of programs and services in family support, child protection, public health, independent living, and community wellness.

Nova Scotia

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Nova
Scotia/Prince Edward Island Division

Libraries

Ferguson Library for Print-Handicapped Students
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Nova Scotia Association of Optometrists

Postsecondary Institutions

Mount Saint Vincent University

Provincial Educational Services

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Nova Scotia Disabled Persons Commission

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Nova
Scotia/Prince Edward Island Division

Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority (APSEA)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Provincial educational services

5940 South Street
Halifax, NS B3H 1S6
Tel: (902) 424-8503
(709) 729-2096 (Fax)
www.apsea.ca
E-mail: bvi@apsea.ca

Deborah F. Pottie, Superintendent, Atlantic Provinces
Special Education Authority, (902) 424-7765, (902)
424-5819 (Fax), pottied@apsea.ca
Raymond LeBlanc, Programs for Students Who Are
Deaf or Hard of Hearing, leblancr@apsea.ca
Patricia Ann MacCusprie, Director, Programs for
Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired,
maccuspriea@apsea.ca
Richard Thompson, Director, Resource and Assessment
Services, (902) 424-0831, (902) 424-6421 (Fax),
thompsonr@apsea.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Atlantic provinces of Canada.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides psychological, academic, visual,
speech assessments.

Assistive Products: Sells curricula, videos, books.
Products for sale on site and online.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Offers instruction by
classroom and itinerant teachers of the blind and
visually impaired.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces
materials on demand in alternate formats (braille,
cassette/tape, large print, NISO/Daisy e-books). **Types
of content:** Textbooks, music, fiction, mathematics.

Community Outreach Programs: Does outreach to
blind/visually impaired children and youth via
itinerant teachers and other professionals.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems,
database software, optical character recognition
systems, screen magnification systems, speech output
systems, training for instructors, video
magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides
consultation and assistance to institutions working
with special education of blind/visually impaired
students.

Counseling: Family counseling available.

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over
the Internet.

Early Intervention: Preschool consultant in each province.

Education Services: Provides special education services to many groups including blind/visually impaired students in Atlantic Provinces of Canada.

Employment: Provides transition facilities and itinerant teachers. Short-term programs provided in career education and preparation for postsecondary education.

Information and Referral: Information and referrals provided by provincial supervisors.

Library: Library services for blind/visually impaired available.

Low Vision: Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Provides parent education materials/resources, center-based parent coaching.

Personnel Preparation: M.Ed in VI, M.Ed in DHH offered in conjunction with Mount St. Vincent University. M.Ed courses available through Distance Education.

Preschool: Provides preschool services.

Professional Training: Staff training and development. Cooperative programs with Mount St. Vincent University.

Recreation: Offers weekend camps and a 5-day summer camp.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation training for newly blinded individuals under age 21 and instruction in compensatory and transition skills.

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Charlottetown: St. Jean School, 335 Queen Street, Charlottetown, PE C1A 4C5

Fredericton: Student Services, Department of Education, P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1

Halifax: APSEA, 5940 South Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S6

St. John's: Student Services, Department of Education, Box 8700, Prince Philip Drive, St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Nova Scotia/Prince Edward Island Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Rehabilitation agency

6136 Almon Street
Halifax, NS B3K 1T8

Tel: (902) 453-1480

(902) 454-6570 (Fax)

www.cnib.ca

E-mail: webmaster@cnib.ca

Elizabeth Hamilton, Executive Director, Nova Scotia:
Prince Edward Island Division,
Elizabeth.Hamilton@cnib.ca

Marilyn Bowlby, Executive Assistant,
marilyn.bowlby@cnib.ca

Robert Ganong, Coordinator, Client Services,
robert.ganong@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: No cost to clients.

Publications: Vision (bi-annual magazine), Braille Kit for Parents, newsletters. Publications available in English, French, audiotope, braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses clients for rehabilitative, mobility training needs, employment accommodation needs.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Has a summer reading program.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational and other materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Public Relations and Advocacy Initiatives.

Computer Training: Training in the use of adaptive technology. Screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Employment accommodation assessments are available to professionals working with individuals who are blind/visually impaired; barrier free design assessments.

Counseling: Counseling services available.

Education Services: Affiliated Toronto CNIB Library transcribes educational textbooks into braille and tape formats.

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Library: Provides library services for blind/visually impaired clients.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Parent Assistance: Informational materials (handbooks, braille kits) provided to parents of blind/visually impaired children.

Reading Services: Local or other newspapers via CNIB Library for the Blind.

Rehabilitation: Provides counselling services, training in the use of technical aids and devices, independent living and safe travel skills, sight enhancement techniques.

Ferguson Library for Print-Handicapped Students

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

Ferguson Library
c/o Patrick Power Library
Saint Mary's University
5946 Inglis Street
Halifax, NS B3H 3C3

Tel: (902) 420-5553

(902) 420-5561 (Fax)

www.stmarys.ca/

E-mail: fergusonl@stmarys.ca

Walt D. Tanner, Coordinator, fergusonl@stmarys.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide alternative format material to students with visual and print-related disabilities.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Province of Nova Scotia.

Geographic area served: Canada and the United States.

Eligibility requirements: Services provided only to individuals who have a visual or print disability.

Ages served: 17 and above.

Hours of operation: Winter: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM;
Summer: 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Clients served annually: 70.

Staff: 1. Coordinator.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Audio and E-text for postsecondary students.

Library: Provides resources and services for print-handicapped postsecondary students and professionals. Has 850 titles on cassette, borrows from other institutions nationally and internationally. Kurzweil scanning machine available. Large-print and

voice synthesizer computer terminal available. Books not available elsewhere converted to audiotape by volunteers.

Mount Saint Vincent University

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

166 Bedford Highway

Halifax, NS B3M 2J6

Tel: (902) 457-6788

(902) 445-3960 (Fax)

www.msvu.ca/education/index.asp#Graduate

Paula Mayich, Graduate Secretary (Adult Education, Educational Psych., Research Master of Arts, School Psych) & Graduate Associate Chair, (902) 457-6341, paula.mayich@msvu.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility requirements: Bachelor of Education or equivalent and a one year successful teaching experience in the public school system.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Offers a Master of Education non-thesis and Master of Arts in Education in Education of the Blind or Visually Impaired.

Nova Scotia Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

P.O. Box 21074

Dartmouth, NS B2W 6A2

Tel: (902) 435-2845

(902) 435-2846 (Fax)

www.nsoptometrists.ca/

E-mail: nsao@accesswave.ca

Nova Scotia Disabled Persons Commission

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

Nelson Place, 8th Floor

5675 Spring Garden Road

Halifax, NS B3J 2M4

Tel: (800) 565-8280

(902) 424-8280

(877) 996-9954 (TDD/TTY)

www.gov.ns.ca/disa/

Charlie MacDonald, Director, macdonc@gov.ns.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To champion the social and economic inclusion of citizens with disabilities.

Geographic area served: Province of Nova Scotia.

SERVICES OFFERED

Rehabilitation: Administers grants and contributions program to help fund services and integration efforts for blind and visually impaired and other disabled persons.

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ Library**

3770 Kempt Road
Halifax, NS B3K 4X8
Tel: (902) 424-2457
(902) 424-0633 (Fax)
www.library.ns.ca

Betsy Armstrong, Provincial Librarian,
armstreh@gov.ns.ca
Michael Calborne, Coordinator of User Services,
colbormb@gov.ns.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To coordinate the provision of accessible materials for blind or visually impaired persons through Nova Scotia public libraries.

Established: 1951.

Geographic area served: Primarily Province of Nova Scotia.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Not open to the public.

Staff: 22.

Additional information: The Library does not offer direct services to the public.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Coordinates provision of alternate-format materials for use by blind or visually impaired persons within public libraries of Nova Scotia.

Ontario

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Access 20/20
Alternate Media International
Canadian Council of the Blind
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office
John Milton Society for the Blind in Canada
National Broadcast Reading Service
Ontario Audio Library Service
PAL Reading Services
University of Western Ontario: Computer Braille Facility

Dog Guide Schools

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind
Lions Foundation of Canada: Canine Vision Canada

Educational Agencies

Toronto District School Board: Vision Program,
Yorkdale Secondary School

Infant/Preschool Agencies

Ontario Foundation for Visually Impaired Children

Information/Referral Centers

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office
Foundation Fighting Blindness (Canada)

Libraries

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office
Library and Archives Canada/Bibliothèque et Archives Canada

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Adaptive Technology Resource Centre: Vision Technology Service
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office
Centre for Sight Enhancement
Low Vision Association of Ontario

Vision Institute of Canada

Membership Organizations (Consumer)

Canadian Council of the Blind
Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association
Canadian National Society of the Deaf-Blind
Low Vision Association of Ontario
VIEWS for the Visually Impaired

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Canadian Association of Optometrists
Canadian Council for Exceptional Children
Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association
Canadian Ophthalmological Society
Ontario Association of Optometrists

National Organizations

Canadian Association of Optometrists
Canadian Council for Exceptional Children
Canadian Council of the Blind
Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office
Canadian National Society of the Deaf-Blind
Canadian Ophthalmological Society
Christian Blind Mission International
John Milton Society for the Blind in Canada
National Broadcast Reading Service
VIEWS for the Visually Impaired

National Publishers

Christian Record Services: National Camps for the Blind

Postsecondary Institutions

Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology
University of Western Ontario

Provincial Educational Services

Ontario Ministry of Education: Provincial Schools Branch

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Ministry of Community and Social Services:
Developmental Services Branch

Radio Reading Stations

National Broadcast Reading Service

Rehabilitation Agencies

Adaptive Technology Resource Centre: Vision
Technology Service

Balance

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National
Office

Research Organizations

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National
Office

Foundation Fighting Blindness (Canada)

Schools for the Blind

Centre Jules-Leger

Hollywood Day/Blind Program

W. Ross Macdonald School for the Visually Impaired

Social Service Organizations

Christian Blind Mission International

Access 20/20**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Alternate media producer**

19 Main Street

Ottawa, ON K1S 1A9

Tel: (613) 727-3013

(613) 224-3490 (Fax)

www.access2020.com

E-mail: sales@access2020.com

Michael Crawford, Vice President, Sales, (613) 272-3013,
(613) 224-3480 (Fax), michael.crawford@tbase.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide braille, large print, audio and
other alternate formats in a timely manner at a
reasonable price.

Established: 1997.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces
materials on demand in alternate formats (braille,
cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:**
Government documents, braille stickers, voting ballot
templates, manuals, textbooks.

AFFILIATE OFFICES

Ottawa: T Base Communications, 19 Main Street,
Ottawa, ON K1S1S9

**Adaptive Technology Resource Centre:
Vision Technology Service****TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Low vision center/clinic**■ **Rehabilitation agency**

J.P. Roberts Library, 1st Floor

University of Toronto Resource Center for Academic
Technology

130 St. George Street

Toronto, ON M5S 3H1

Tel: (416) 978-4360

(416) 971-2629 (Fax)

www.utoronto.ca/atrc/

E-mail: general.atrc@utoronto.ca

Jutta Treriranus, Director, jutta.treviranus@utoronto.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To bring together people and technology as a
means of enhancing the work, school, and homelife of
people with a visual disability.

Established: 1997.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Assesses for technology for individuals
with visual disabilities through Vision Technology
Services (VTS), authorized by Ministry of Health
Assistive Devices Program (ADP).

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides on- and
off-site assessment, research, and reporting through
Employment Accommodation Services team. Offers
Internet and multi-media workshops, adaptive
technology workshops.

Employment: Assists in the hiring, retraining, retention
or advancement of people with disabilities.

Low Vision: Administers the Clinic for Sight
Enhancement and Sight Substitution.

Rehabilitation: Provides adaptive technology
workshops.

Alternate Media International**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION**■ **Alternate media producer**

2757 Fenton Road

Unit 1-B

Gloucester, ON K1T 3T8

Tel: (613) 822-6666

(613) 822-6557 (Fax)

www.ami-inc.com

E-mail: ami@aei.ca

Chris Andruss, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Canada and USA.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, diskette, large print). **Types of content:** Brochures, billing, government documents, greeting cards, braille business cards, braille menus, manuals, monthly bank statements, utility and phone bills, schedules, programs, employment information, corporate documentation, newsletters, letters, promotional materials, children's books. Materials for production may be submitted via e-mail or in disk or hard copy formats.

Balance

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

4920 Dundas Street West
Suite 302
Toronto, ON M9A 1B7
Tel: (416) 236-1796
(416) 236-4280 (Fax)
www.balancetoronto.org
E-mail: info@balancetoronto.org
Molly Saunders, Program Coordinator,
m.saunders@balancetoronto.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable people who are blind or visually impaired to be independent, participating members of their communities.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: Toronto.

Geographic area served: Metropolitan Toronto.

Eligibility requirements: 18 years or over, legally blind, and motivated to learn independent living skills.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-9:00 PM.

Budget: \$450,000.

Clients served annually: approximately 60.

Staff: 9 full time staff. 2 O&M instructors, 1 DLS instructor, 1 access technology instructor, 2 community access instructors, 1 programme coordinator, 1 secretary reader, 1 executive director.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Counseling: Provides support to participants to use community services.

Information and Referral: Refers for educational courses, recreational activities, and employment.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides orientation and mobility training.

Rehabilitation: Provides training in daily living skills, community access and awareness, orientation and mobility and access technology.

Canadian Association of Optometrists

See Canadian National Organizations.

Canadian Council for Exceptional Children

See Canadian National Organizations.

Canadian Council of the Blind (CCB)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Canadian Deafblind and Rubella Association (CDBRA)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

4120 Rideau Valley Drive North
Manotick, ON K4M 1A3
Tel: (613) 692-7777
(613) 692-0650 (Fax)
www.guidedogs.ca
E-mail: cgdb@sympatico.ca

Jane Thornton, COO and Co-Founder

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assist visually impaired Canadians by providing and training them in the use of professionally trained guide dogs.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Ottawa.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Registered blind and Canadian citizen or resident. All clients are interviewed in their home prior to acceptance for training.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Facility is on one level. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residences for a maximum of 8 clients.

Staff: 24 (full-time and part-time).

Fee structure: Nominal \$1 fee.

Publications: Side by Side (bi-annual newsletter).

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Offers post-class and routine follow-up with minimum of one visit per year.

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training for approximately 30-40 visually impaired Canadians yearly who attain greater mobility and a more independent lifestyle with the dog guide as their mobility aid.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: National Office (CNIB)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Canadian National Society of the Deaf-Blind

See Canadian National Organizations.

Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Centre for Sight Enhancement

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

University of Waterloo School of Optometry

200 Columbia Street West

Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1

Tel: (519) 888-4708

(519) 888-4790 (TDD/TTY)

(519) 746-2337 (Fax)

www.optometry.uwaterloo.ca/clinic/cse.html

Graham Strong, Director,

gstrong@sciborg.uwaterloo.ca

Marg Dupuis, Intake Coordinator, Low Vision Clinic

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide low vision services consistent with a well-documented multidisciplinary approach, to instruct optometry undergraduates, graduates, and other rehabilitation personnel, to advocate amongst other disciplines, consumer groups, funding agencies, government policy makers, and professional educators, and to conduct research projects.

Established: 1984.

Geographic area served: Province of Ontario.

Eligibility requirements: Functional visual impairment, eye report, and patient information form.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible.

Funded by: Client fees, government grants, private donations.

Staff: Clinical rehabilitation, counseling, and technology professionals.

Fee structure: Initial assessment: \$100 (Canadian).

Publications: Brochure on low vision services and counseling services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Community Outreach Programs to older persons.

Assessment: Provides low vision assessment, high-technology assessment, and head-mounted video display assessments.

Assistive Products: Distributes products for activities of daily living for sale to clients. Products for sale on site.

Community Outreach Programs: Offers geriatric outreach services to institutional settings and homebound elderly clients in Waterloo region.

Computer Training: Computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides on-site technical support.

Counseling: Offers counseling services related to low vision issues to clients and their families.

Information and Referral: Refers to community-based services in client's home community as needed.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

Parent Assistance: Assists parents in seeking funding sources for service and devices.

Professional Training: Offers low vision residency programs.

Rehabilitation: Provides low vision rehabilitation.

Centre Jules-Leger

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

281 Avenue Lanark

Ottawa, ON K1Z 6R8

Tel: (613) 761-9300

(613) 761-9302 (TDD/TTY)

(613) 761-9301 (Fax)

www.centrejulesleger.com/

Jean Marc Sauve, Principal, Provincial School for the Deaf and Blind, Jean-Marc.Sauve@edu.gov.on.ca

Nellie Coulangue, Secretary, Blind Programs, nelly.coulangue@edu.gov.on.ca

Pierre Loranger, Consultant for the Blind, Itinerant Program, pierre.loranger@edu.gov.on.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: French-speaking Ontario.

Eligibility requirements: Visually impaired, blind, deaf, deaf-blind, or multiply disabled Ontario children, K-12.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Residential Facilities: Yes.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: K-12 residential and nonresidential school. Also has itinerant French-speaking instructors for preschool and grades K-12.

Christian Blind Mission International

See Canadian National Organizations.

Christian Record Services: National Camps for the Blind

See Canadian National Organizations.

Foundation Fighting Blindness (Canada)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Hollywood Day/Blind Program

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

Hollywood Public School
360 Hollywood Avenue
North York, ON M2N 3L4
Tel: (416) 395-2560
(416) 395-4485 (Fax)

Julia Donelan, Teacher of the Blind,
julia.donelan@tel.tdsb.on.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide braille instruction on a daily basis to elementary-aged (4-11 years) students in a setting which allows for both segregated instruction (with other braille users) and integrated instruction (with print users).

County/District where located: Toronto.

Geographic area served: Toronto.

Eligibility requirements: Braille user or potential braille user.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-3:15 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Staff: 2 teachers of the blind, 1 O&M specialist, 2 braillists/classroom assistants.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Offers grade 1 to grade 5 educational programs.

John Milton Society for the Blind in Canada (JMS)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Lions Foundation of Canada: Canine Vision Canada

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Dog guide school

152 Wilson Street
Oakville, ON L6K 3H2
Tel: (800) 768-3030
(905) 842-2891
(905) 842-1585 (TDD/TTY)
(905) 842-3373 (Fax)

www.dogguides.com

E-mail: info@dogguides.com

Sandy Turney, Executive Director,
sandyturney@dogguides.com

Lynda Bridgeman, Client Services Supervisor,
lbridgeman@dogguides.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide service to Canadians with disabilities on the areas of mobility, safety, and independence, and to assist other charitable endeavors as appropriate.

Established: 1983.

Geographic area served: All of Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Canadian citizen; minimum 16 years of age.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Fully accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Provided during training session.

Staff: Training staff complete 3-year in-house apprenticeship.

Additional information: Also oversees, as separate divisions, Hearing Ear Dogs of Canada, Special Skills Dogs of Canada.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guide training.

Low Vision Association of Ontario

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Consumer membership organization

■ Low vision center/clinic

180 St. Claire Avenue East
Toronto, ON M4T 1N8
Tel: (416) 486-3442
(416) 486-3442 (Fax)

Bill Carroll, Managing Director, lvao@sympatico.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide, through self-help programs operated by people who are themselves visually impaired, hope, encouragement and expertise to other nearly blind people.

Established: 1982.

Eligibility requirements: Nearly blind Ontario citizens (totally blind persons are referred to other agencies).

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Fee structure: No membership fees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Counseling to older persons.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Advises teachers of children with severely diminished vision.

Counseling: Provides peer-counseling. Offers peer support and counseling to visually impaired seniors.

Information and Referral: Functions as an idea and information exchange point.

Low Vision: Provides training in the use of visual devices.

Parent Assistance: Provides counseling and support for parents of children with severely diminished vision.

Ministry of Community and Social Services: Developmental Services Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

56 Wellesley Street West

12th Floor

Toronto, ON M7A 1E9

Tel: (416) 327-4971

(416) 325-8865 (Fax)

www.cfcs.gov.on.ca/cfcs/en/

Mohamed Haniss, Senior Policy Analyst

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services and supports to people of all ages who have a developmental disability, primarily through a network of community-based, board-operated, non-profit transfer payment agencies. Agencies help families care for adults and children at home if possible, but provincially operated facilities can provide supervised living and day programs.

Geographic area served: Province of Ontario.

SERVICES OFFERED

Financial Assistance: Provides funding to non-profit agencies for interpreter and intervenor services for people who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind. Interpreter and intervenor services help individuals to live as independently as possible in the community.

Rehabilitation: Administers grants and contributions program to help fund services and integration efforts for blind and visually impaired and other disabled persons.

Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

Brantford Campus

411 Elgin Street

Brantford, ON N7T 5V2

Tel: (519) 759-7200

(519) 758-6043 (Fax)

www.mohawkc.on.ca/dept/fachshs/b-v-inst.html

E-mail: admissions@mohawkcollege.ca

Mary Maureen Atkin, Coordinator, Health Services and Human Services, snookhm@mail.mohawkc.on.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To deliver selected educational and training programs, courses and services in an innovative life-long learning environment designed to contribute to the economic well-being and the quality of life of the communities it serves.

Established: 1967.

Staff: 2 full-time faculty, 12 part-time faculty, 1 full-time support staff within program area.

SERVICES OFFERED

Personnel Preparation: Offers two specialized programs which train instructors to work with blind and visually impaired clients of all ages and with a variety of physical learning abilities.

National Broadcast Reading Service (NBRS)

See Canadian National Organizations.

Ontario Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

2000 Argentia Road

Plaza 3, Suite 300

Mississauga, ON L5N 1V9

Tel: (800) 540-3837

(905) 826-3522

www.optom.on.ca/

E-mail: inquiry1204@optom.on.ca

Ontario Audio Library Service

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

1600 West Bank Drive, Box 4800,

Blackburn Hall, Trent University

Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8

Tel: (705) 748-1240

(705) 748-1140 (Fax)

E-mail: oals@trentu.ca

Lorna Hilborn, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Ontario.

Eligibility requirements: Students enrolled in a postsecondary program in Ontario.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM;
Summer: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 250.

Staff: 9 full-time.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Postsecondary educational textbooks.

Ontario Foundation for Visually Impaired Children

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Infant/preschool agency

High Park Forest School
Building 49
Colborne Lodge Drive
Toronto, ON M6P 3K2
Tel: (416) 767-5977
(416) 767-5530 (Fax)
E-mail: ofvic@look.ca

April C. Cornell, Executive Director
Ann Acheson, Program Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To enable babies and young children who are blind or with low vision to live full productive lives and to provide families with service, support and assistance.

County/District where located: Toronto.

Geographic area served: Toronto, York, Simcoe, Peel, Halton, Durham.

Eligibility requirements: Diagnosis of visual impairment, in care of an ophthalmologist, age criteria. For preschool program must reside in Toronto.

Ages served: 0 to 5.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Funded by: Client fees, government grants, private donations.

Staff: 8 full-time teachers or consultants.

SERVICES OFFERED

Early Intervention: Offers home-based and community consultation services providing instruction in all developmental areas.

Preschool: Offers center-based preschool program and home-based support.

Ontario Ministry of Education: Provincial Schools Branch

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

255 Ontario Street South
Milton, ON L9T 2M5
Tel: (905) 878-2851
(905) 878-7915 (TDD/TTY)
(505) 978-1354 (Fax)
www.psbnet.ca
E-mail: director@psbnet.ca

Mel Thompson, Acting Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Province of Ontario.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Oversees the public education of deaf, deaf-blind, and multiply disabled K-12 age Ontario children. Funds W. Ross Macdonald School (English-speaking) and Centre Jules-Leger (French-speaking). Administers itinerant province-wide programs.

Preschool: Sends itinerant teachers to preschools and homes.

PAL Reading Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

27 Carlton Street
Suite 504
Toronto, ON M5B 1L2
Tel: (416) 340-7828
(416) 340-7838 (Fax)
www.palreading.org
E-mail: pal.read@bellnet.ca
Valerie Veinotte, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

Geographic area served: Ontario for college and university students; Greater Toronto area for non-student individuals; Canada for fee-for-service audio format recordings.

Eligibility requirements: Referral by postsecondary school for educational recordings; self-referral from persons who are print handicapped; agencies serving people who are print handicapped.

Ages served: 18 to 75.

Hours of operation: Mon. and Fri. 9:00 AM-7:00 PM; Tues.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Budget: \$195,000.

Clients served annually: 100.

Staff: 2. Coordinator and assistant coordinator.

Fee structure: English-\$85.00 per recorded hour; French-\$95.00 per recorded hour; free to individuals.

Additional information: Analogue audiocassette recordings are produced for people who have a print-handicap due to vision, learning disability, mobility disability, or other disabilities. Digital recordings will be offered beginning September 2005.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** All categories of books (free in Greater Toronto area, fee-for-service for others).

Toronto District School Board: Vision Program, Yorkdale Secondary School

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Educational agency

38 Orfus Road
Room 158
Toronto, ON M6A 1L6
Tel: (416) 395-2145
(416) 395-3711 (Fax)
www.tdsb.on.ca/index.asp
Carol Farrenkopf, Consultant

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Toronto School District.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Administers program of itinerant teachers of blind and visually impaired children, K-12, in Toronto School District.

University of Western Ontario

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Postsecondary institution

1137 Western Road
London, ON N6G 1G7
Tel: (519) 661-3182
www.edu.uwo.ca/conted/aq/subject/blind.html
Ruth Heard, Continuing Teacher Education Manager,
heard@uwo.ca

SERVICES OFFERED

Distance Education: Provides selected programs over the Internet.

Personnel Preparation: Offers continuing education courses leading to specialist qualifications.

University of Western Ontario: Computer Braille Facility

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

Room UCC215
University of Western Ontario
London, ON N6A 3K7
Tel: (519) 661-3061
E-mail: kirk@braille.uwo.ca
Kirk Reiser, Manager

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Almost entirely class hand-outs, lecture notes, examinations.

IEWS for the Visually Impaired

See Canadian National Organizations.

Vision Institute of Canada

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Low vision center/clinic

16 York Mills Road
Suite 110
Toronto, ON M2P 2E5
Tel: (416) 224-2273
(416) 224-9234 (Fax)
www.visioninstitute.optometry.net
E-mail: visioninstitute@globalserve.net
Mitch C. Samek, Executive Director,
mjsamek@visioninstitute.optometry.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

Geographic area served: Toronto and surrounding area.

Hours of operation: Mon. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM; Tues. 12:00 PM-8:00 PM; Wed. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM; Thurs. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Fri. 9:00 AM-2:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessibility.

SERVICES OFFERED

Community Outreach Programs: Offers regularly scheduled educational programs for the public, especially in nursing homes.

Early Intervention: Offers early vision examinations, birth to 4 years old.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and supplies low vision devices.

W. Ross Macdonald School for the Visually Impaired

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ School for the blind

350 Brant Avenue
Brantford, ON N3T 3J9
Tel: (519) 759-0730
(519) 759-4741 (Fax)
www.psbnet.ca/wrm/

Clive Hodder, Superintendent,
clive.hodder@edu.gov.on.ca
Don A. Neale, Principal, Elementary and Secondary
Program, don.neale@edu.gov.on.ca
Liz VanKimmenade, Deaf/Blind Program,
liz.vankimmenadefirstname.edu.gov.on.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide an alternative educational placement for blind, low vision, and deaf-blind students, to identify individual needs, teach independent self-confidence and participation, and ensure student safety. To create a unique learning environment which fosters academic and social involvement and a sense of belonging rather than difference.

Geographic area served: Canada.

Eligibility requirements: Preschool: blind or deaf/blind. Ages 5-21: blind, visually impaired, or deaf/blind.

Ages served: 0 to 21.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible. Transportation available to and from facility.

Residential Facilities: Residential facilities available.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Textbooks (elementary, secondary, postsecondary).

Early Intervention: Counsels families of preschool blind and deaf-blind children.

Education Services: Offers academic programs for blind, low vision, and deaf-blind students, residential and non-residential, ages birth to age 21.

Library: Maintains the Provincial Resource Centre, which provides materials in braille, large print and audio tape to students who are print disabled and attending Ontario's elementary and secondary schools. These materials are also available to students registered in courses at colleges and universities as well to approved private vocational schools.

Preschool: Provides consultations to preschool blind and deaf-blind children and their families.

Prince Edward Island

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Libraries

Prince Edward Island Provincial Library

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Prince Edward Island Association of Optometrists

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

PEI Health and Social Services

PEI Health and Social Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

16 Garfield

Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

Tel: (902) 368-6579

www.gov.pe.ca/hss/index.php3

Bryan Bertelsen, Coordinator, Benefits & Services to
Persons with a Disability

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To administer grants and contributions programs to help fund services and integration efforts for blind and visually impaired and other disabled persons.

County/District where located: Province of Prince Edward Island.

Geographic area served: Province of Prince Edward Island.

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Funds educational programs for individuals who are blind or visually impaired on Prince Edward Island.

Employment: Administers, funds programs for vocational training and rehabilitation of blind or visually impaired individuals on Prince Edward Island.

Rehabilitation: Funds rehabilitation programs for blind or visually impaired individuals on Prince Edward Island.

Prince Edward Island Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

216 Water Street

Summerside, PE C1N 1B3

Tel: (902) 436-8549

(902) 888-3116 (Fax)

E-mail: pei@nbao.optometry.net

Prince Edward Island Provincial Library

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Library

Red Head Road

Morrell, PE C0A 1S0

Tel: (902) 961-7320

(902) 961-7322 (Fax)

www.library.pe.ca

Allan Groen, Provincial Librarian, ajgroen@gov.pe.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide and promote an effective library service that supports the educational, recreational, and informational needs of residents of Prince Edward Island.

County/District where located: Kings County or Prince Edward Island.

Geographic area served: Province of Prince Edward Island.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, wheelchair elevator.

Funded by: State funds.

Additional information: Persons interested in registering for talking books should contact Confederation Centre Public Library, an affiliated branch library in Charlottetown, (902) 368-4643.

SERVICES OFFERED

Library: Serves an administrative function with regard to coordinating blind/visually impaired library services provided in local public libraries on Prince Edward Island. Has collection of large-print and recorded materials shared among branch libraries. Provincial library has own small collection of alternate-format materials, with other titles supplied by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Quebec

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Alternate Media Producers

Braille Jymico
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Quebec
Division
Direction de l'Adaptation Scolaire et des Services
Complementaires
Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille
Montreal Association for the Blind

Dog Guide Schools

Mira Foundation (Guide Dogs for the Blind)

Libraries

Montreal Association for the Blind

Low Vision Centers/Clinics

Montreal Association for the Blind

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Quebec Optometric Association

Provincial Educational Services

Direction de l'Adaptation Scolaire et des Services
Complementaires

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Office des personnes handicapées du Quebec

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Quebec
Division
Centre Louis-Hebert
Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille
Montreal Association for the Blind

Schools for the Blind

Montreal Association for the Blind

Braille Jymico

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

4545, 1ere Avenue
Charlesbourg, PQ G1H 2S8
Tel: (877) 272-4553
(418) 624-2105
(418) 624-0994 (Fax)
www.braillejymico.com
E-mail: info@braillejymico.com
Jacques Cote, President/CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.
County/District where located: Canada.
Geographic area served: Worldwide.
Staff: 52. Administration team, transcribers team,
proofreaders team, production team.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces
materials in alternate formats. **Types of content:**
Nemeth Code, Tactile Graphics, Literary Braille, Music
Braille.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Quebec Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer ■ Rehabilitation agency

2155 rue Guy
Suite 750
Montreal, PQ H3H 2R9
Tel: (514) 934-4622
(514) 934-2131 (Fax)
www.inca.qc.ca
E-mail: susan.vida@cnib.ca

Anne Jarry, Executive Director, Anne.Jarry@cnib.ca
 Susan Vida, Coordinator, Communications &
 Technology, susan.vida@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

County/District where located: Montreal.

Geographic area served: Quebec.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Week days 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Eastern.

Accessibility: Fully accessible.

Fee structure: No cost to clients.

Publications: CNIB Vision Magazine.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Needs assessment completed along with client. Depending on assessment outcome, client may be referred to a government-funded rehabilitation program or service delivered by a provincial vision rehab centre of his or her district.

Assistive Products: Provides product information and demonstrations and offers opportunities for purchasing low vision technical aids and independent living tools.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Educational and other materials.

Community Outreach Programs: Conducts outreach initiatives with partner provincial organizations in the vision field, retirement residences, educational establishments, eye professionals and/or through organized events in the offices of the Quebec Division.

Computer Training: Provides 35- to 45-hour instructional programs on the Microsoft suite of software and hands-on training on the use of the online CNIB Digital Library. Computer operating systems, database software, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, word processing.

Counseling: Counselors are available to clients by phone or by appointment.

Information and Referral: Provides information on a wide range of topics related to vision loss and services available at the CNIB-Quebec Division or on services and programs offered by other Quebec blindness organizations (private and public).

Library: Offers a bilingual service that produces and circulates talking books and magazines on CD-ROM in DAISY format for both adults and children, braille

books, electronic books, children's print/braille books, braille music, descriptive videos, and tactile diagrams. CNIB Digital Library services include the Children's Discovery Portal, its online searchable Library catalogue, DAISY talking books and magazines online, electronic text and braille books, accessible web sites, electronic databases, an online newspaper and magazines stand also available by phone.

Parent Assistance: Informational materials (handbooks, braille kits) provided to parents of blind/visually impaired children.

Reading Services: Provides a reading service of local or district newspapers by telephone (manned by volunteers and CNIB staff).

Support Groups: Offers peer support group programs.

Centre Louis-Hebert

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

1550 Pointe aux Lievres Nord

Quebec, PQ G1L 4M8

Tel: (418) 529-5511

(418) 524-1143 (Fax)

Francine Vachon, Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer adaptation/rehabilitation and social integration services to visually impaired persons, residents of Quebec province.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM (September to June); 8:00 AM-4:00 PM (July-August).

Residential Facilities: Short-term.

Staff: 56.

SERVICES OFFERED

Counseling: Provides referrals to local centers. Offers counseling for orientation in school and work.

Employment: Works with outside agencies in job placement.

Low Vision: Provides evaluation and referrals, follow-up, and training in the use of low vision devices.

Rehabilitation: Offers training in social and community integration and adaptation to the environment.

Direction de l'Adaptation Scolaire et des Services Complementaires

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Alternate media producer

■ Provincial educational services

1035, de la Chevrotiere

Edifice Marie Guyart, 17e etage

Quebec, PQ G1R 5A5

Tel: (418) 643-9115

(418) 643-5914 (Fax)

Lise Lapointe, Contact for Blind Students,
lise.lapointe@meq.gouv.qc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To oversee the provision of educational services as needed to students with disabilities.

County/District where located: Quebec.

Geographic area served: Province of Quebec.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Textbooks.

Education Services: Monitors the provision of educational services to children and youths with disabilities.

Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Rehabilitation agency

1111 St. Charles West
Longueuil, PQ J4K 5G4

Tel: (800) 361-7063

(450) 463-1710

(450) 463-0243 (Fax)

www.inlb.qc.ca

E-mail: webmaster@inlb.qc.ca

Line Ampleman, Director General,
lamplema@inlb.qc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide rehabilitation services for blind and visually impaired persons.

Established: 1861.

Geographic area served: Canada and USA.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible.

Fee structure: Some fees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Textbooks, cultural materials, general information documents, graphics, and adapted materials.

Rehabilitation: Provides rehabilitation services for blind and visually impaired persons.

Mira Foundation (Guide Dogs for the Blind)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Dog guide school

1820 rang Nord-Ouest

Sainte-Madeleine, PQ J0H 1S0

Tel: (450) 795-3725

(450) 795-3789 (Fax)

www.mira.ca

E-mail: info@mira.ca

Eric St-Pierre, CEO and Founder

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To give guide dogs, free of charge, to the blind and service dogs to the physically handicapped.

Established: 1981.

Geographic area served: Canada, France, Mexico.

Eligibility requirements: Blind with effective orientation and mobility training. Every blind person must be evaluated by staff.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Transportation available to and from facility.

Publications: The Mira Magazine, Many Years of Love.

Additional information: Dogs are trained in French, English or Spanish.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dog Guide: Provides dog guides for rehabilitation of persons who are physically/visually handicapped.

Montreal Association for the Blind (MAB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

- Alternate media producer
- Library
- Low vision center/clinic
- Rehabilitation agency
- School for the blind

7000 Sherbrooke Street West

Montreal, PQ H4B 1R3

Tel: (514) 489-8201

(514) 489-3477 (Fax)

www.mab.ca

Paul Gareau, Executive Director,
pgareau@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To offer adjustment, rehabilitation and social integration services to persons who require such services, as well as to persons who accompany them, and support services for their families and friends.

Established: 1908.

Geographic area served: Province of Quebec. Services more concentrated in the greater Montreal area.

Eligibility requirements: Persons whose visual acuity in each eye is less than 6/21 (20/70), or whose visual field in each eye is less than 60 degrees in the 180 degree and 90 degree meridians after correction by appropriate ophthalmic lenses (eyeglasses or contact lenses, but not special optical systems or additions of more than 4 diopters).

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible and adapted to the needs of the visually impaired.

Residential Facilities: Seniors residence and school residential services.

Clients served annually: 3000.

Staff: Approximately 150. Vision Rehabilitation staff comprised of social workers, low vision therapists, optometrists, O&M specialists, rehabilitation teachers, occupational therapists, educators, and computer specialists. Staff in seniors' residence composed mainly of nursing staff.

Fee structure: Rehabilitation services are funded under the provincial Medicare program. Services are free to clients.

Publications: Information pamphlets on services.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: See descriptions for the following services: Assistive Products, Counseling, Employment, Health/Fitness, Housing Services, Library Services, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Recreation Services, Rehabilitation Services.

Assessment: Provides assessment of activities of daily living skills, communication skills, and in the use of adaptive technology.

Assistive Products: Maintains the Technical Aids Boutique, which displays and sells over 300 specialized aids and devices to assist blind and visually impaired people.

Braille and Reading Instruction: Provides instruction in the areas of communication skills including braille, handwriting, and type/keyboarding skills.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Educational texts in the English language for primary and secondary students.

Computer Training: Offers instruction and training in the basic use and functions of adaptive technology.

Counseling: Offers comprehensive social integration services.

Education Services: Operates the Philip E. Layton-Elementary and Secondary School, which offers K-12 program and itinerant services for mainstream visually impaired students. Services are provided both within the specialized school setting as well as in regular community schools. Services include sensory stimulation, braille instruction, adaptation of educational materials, consultation services to community classroom teachers and individualized programs based on the student's needs. The school also has a specialized lending library containing talking children's books and adapted educational teaching materials.

Employment: Offers job placement through the Visually Impaired Employment Program. Assists blind and visually impaired clients to seek and secure meaningful and gainful employment and to facilitate their integration into the workplace. Services to employers include sensitizing employment organizations to the capabilities of blind and visually

impaired people, demonstrating technical aids to potential employers and making them aware of the full range of MAB services.

Health/Fitness: Maintains a gym and an indoor swimming pool. Specific exercise and fitness programs are provided to children within the internal school program, to seniors in the day centre program as well as in the seniors' residence program.

Housing Services: Operates the Gilman Residence, a 59-bed long-term-care residence for blind and visually impaired seniors. The residence provides room and board, nursing care, vision rehabilitation, psychosocial, pharmaceutical and medical services. Has a day center program for blind and visually impaired seniors who live in the community.

Library: Maintains a library of talking books for adults and braille library for elementary and secondary students. The talking book service offers over 3000 titles of popular talking books as well as descriptive audio and videocassettes of movies. The braille library features over 2000 titles including novels, textbooks, magazines as well as print and braille books.

Low Vision: Maintains a comprehensive low vision clinic designed to assist people coping with serious loss of vision. Assessment of visual skills includes specialized optometric evaluation as well as evaluation of the use of functional vision in tasks of daily living. Instruction in the use of functional vision as well as assessment and instruction in the use of visual aids is done, as required.

Orientation and Mobility: Assists clients to gain the skills they need to enjoy the freedom of traveling independently with safety and confidence, through assessment and instruction in the use of various travel aids and techniques. Guidance and referral to obtain guide dogs are also provided.

Parent Assistance: Offers preschool parent support groups, counseling.

Preschool: Addresses the needs of blind and visually impaired children from birth to kindergarten. Provides parents with a better understanding of the role vision plays in the development of their child and seeks to maximize the child's abilities and global development to enable him/her to successfully integrate into their community, their school and later, into society. In addition to direct intervention with the child, the program offers information, assessment, instruction and consultation to parents as well as to programs and nursery schools where the child is enrolled.

Recreation: Offers weaving group, social group for seniors, summer day camp for children enrolled at Philip E. Layton School, indoor pool, large gym, crafts rooms, amateur ham-radio club.

Rehabilitation: Provides assessment and instruction in the areas of self-care skills, eating skills, food preparation and cooking skills including microwave cooking, home care skills, basic budgeting and banking and environmental modifications in the home such as

the labeling of appliances as needed. Provides instruction in the use of specialized tape recorders, digital readers, talking and large print calculators, note takers and other adapted devices.

Office des personnes handicapées du Québec

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

Headquarters
309, rue Brock
Drummondville, PQ J2B 1C5
Tel: (800) 567-1465
(819) 475-8585
(800) 567-1477 (TDD/TTY)
(819) 475-8559 (TDD/TTY)
(819) 475-8753 (Fax)
www.ophq.gouv.qc.ca
E-mail: communications@ophq.gouv.qc.ca
Michel-André Roy, Interim Communications Director,
(819) 475-8533, michel-andre.roy@ophq.gouv.qc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To assure the integration of people with disabilities into all domains of society; to promote and defend their rights and interests to assure educational, professional, and social integration; to facilitate the coordination of services; and to furnish information and referral services.

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: Province of Québec.

Hours of operation: 8:30 AM-12:00, 1:00 PM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 2 000.

Staff: 130.

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Provides information and referral services.

Rehabilitation: Administers grants and contributions program to help fund services and integration efforts for blind and visually impaired and other disabled persons.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Montreal: Direction de l'intervention collective régionale de l'Ouest, 500, René-Lévesque Ouest, Bureau 15.700, Montreal, PQ H2Z1W7, montreal@ophq.gouv.qc.ca or laval@ophq.gouv.qc.ca

Sainte-Foy: Direction de l'intervention collective régionale de l'Est, 979, avenue de Bourgogne, bureau 400, Sainte-Foy, PQ G1W 2L4

Trois-Rivieres: Direction de l'intervention collective régionale du Centre, 100, rue Laviolette, Rez-de-chaussee 19, Trois-Rivieres, PQ G9A 5S9, maurice@ophq.gouv.qc.ca

Quebec Optometric Association

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

1265 Berri Street
Suite 740
Montreal, PQ H2L 4X4
Tel: (514) 288-6272
(514) 288-7071 (Fax)
E-mail: aoq@login.net

Regroupement des Aveugles et Amblyopes du Québec

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Information/referral center

3740 Berri Street, Second Floor
Bureau 240
Montreal, PQ H2L 4G9
Tel: (514) 849-2018
(514) 849-2754 (Fax)
www.raaq.qc.ca
E-mail: raaq@raaq.qc.ca
Andre Vincent, General Director, avincent@raaq.qc.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote and advocate for the rights and interests of visually impaired persons.

Established: 1975.

Geographic area served: Province of Quebec.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Funded by: Government grants.

Staff: 2 full-time, 3 part-time.

Publications: INFO-RAAQ (newsletter, edited in French, produced in braille, large print, cassette, and disk).

SERVICES OFFERED

Information and Referral: Appraises twelve affiliations regarding advocacy issues affecting more than 1,600 blind and visually impaired persons.

Saskatchewan

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Membership Organizations (Professional)

Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists

Provincial Educational Services

Saskatchewan Learning: Special Education Unit

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Saskatchewan Department of Social Services: Office of Disability Issues

Rehabilitation Agencies

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind:
Saskatchewan Division

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind: Saskatchewan Division (CNIB)

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Rehabilitation agency

2550 Broad Street
Regina, SK S4P 3Z4
Tel: (306) 525-2571
(306) 565-3300 (Fax)
www.cnib.ca
E-mail: webmaster@cnib.ca

Dennis Tottenham, Executive Director, Saskatchewan & Manitoba Divisions, Saskatchewan Division, (204) 789-0963, (204) 775-5090 (Fax), dennis.tottenham@cnib.ca

Lynn Latta, Director of Government Relations & Advocacy, Saskatchewan & Manitoba Divisions, Saskatchewan Division, (306) 667-2235, (306) 955-6224 (Fax), lynn.latta@cnib.ca

Delcy-Ann Selymes, Director of Rehabilitation, Saskatchewan & Manitoba Divisions, (204) 789-0964, (204) 775-5090 (Fax), delcy.selymes.@cnib.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide services to individuals across Canada to whom loss of vision is a central problem in personal and social adjustment and to act as a consultant and resource agency to the helping professions, government departments, and private industry.

Established: 1918.

Geographic area served: Saskatchewan.

Eligibility requirements: Services are available to anyone whose visual impairment is affecting his or her daily living activities, lifestyle or independence. One does not have to be blind to come to the CNIB.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible, braille signage.

Fee structure: Some fee for services may apply to community organizations.

Publications: Service Handbook and Annual Report.

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Assessment, Assistive Products, Computer Training, Consultation/Technical Program Assistance, Counseling, Employment, Information and Referral, Library Services, Low Vision Services, Orientation and Mobility, Rehabilitation Services to older persons.

Assessment: Initial registration and triage and referral to services.

Assistive Products: Maintains a store that carries a wide variety of adaptive and technical aids.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print).

Computer Training: Keyboarding, access technology and Internet usage. Computer operating systems,

screen magnification systems, speech output systems, training for instructors, video magnifier/CCTV, word processing.

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Offers individual and employer high-tech assessments.

Counseling: Provides counseling to individuals and families to assist in the adjustment to vision loss.

Employment: Provides vocational and employment related services to individuals to determine career goals and develop or learn new skills, including job search techniques.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to appropriate CNIB professionals or other community resources.

Library: Circulates books, magazines, and other material in braille, e-text, DAISY format and audiocassette are by mail free to charge to library users. Additional resources such as descriptive videos, braille music, tactile drawings, and print/braille books are available while newspapers and magazines can be accessed via computer or telephone.

Low Vision: Provides low vision evaluation and follow-up. Prescribes and recommends low vision devices. Assists individuals to make use of their remaining vision with the use of adaptive devices.

Orientation and Mobility: Provides training for safe and independent travel in the home and community.

Parent Assistance: Offers information and support to parents. Support provided to professionals in the community who assist parents of blind and visually impaired children.

Professional Training: Training provided to community professionals upon request.

Rehabilitation: Provides a range of rehabilitation services that include orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, low vision services, counselling, employment and technology training.

LOCAL OFFICES

Saskatoon: 1705 McKercher Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7H 5N6

Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Professional membership organization

#108 – 2366 Avenue C North

Saskatoon, SK S7L 5X5

Tel: (877) 660-3937

(306) 652-2069

(306) 652-2642 (Fax)

www.optometrists.sk.ca/

E-mail: saskop@sasktel.net

Shelia Spence, Executive Director, s.spence@sasktel.net

Saskatchewan Department of Social Services: Office of Disability Issues

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

1920 Broad Street

14th Floor

Regina, SK S4P 3V6

Tel: (306) 787-7283 (Voice and TDD/TTY)

(306) 798-0364 (Fax)

www.gov.sk.ca/odi/

E-mail: odi@dcre.gov.sk.ca

Daryl Stubel, Executive Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To direct the development of an integrated, coordinated array of public policies, programs, and services for people with disabilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

Advocacy: Directs the development of an integrated, coordinated array of public policies, programs and services for persons with disabilities; works with government departments and the disability community to identify and resolve issues of concern to the disability community; participates on behalf of Saskatchewan at federal and interprovincial meetings; and works with departments and the community in implementing national vision for persons with disabilities.

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Advocacy to older persons.

Education Services: Addresses education issues.

Employment: Addresses employment issues.

Saskatchewan Learning: Special Education Unit

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

2220 College Avenue

Second Floor

Regina, SK S4P 3V7

Tel: (306) 787-1183

(306) 787-0277 (Fax)

E-mail: penny.ursu@sasked.gov.sk.ca

Wanda Lyons, Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: Province of Saskatchewan.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff: Director, Assistant Director, 2 Senior Program Managers and a team of part-time consultants (ACCESS Team).

SERVICES OFFERED

Education Services: Provides leadership within the K-12 education system to assist school divisions in meeting the needs of students with exceptional learning and behavioural needs to ensure they have

equal access to, and benefit from, the provincial education program. Unit personnel collaborate with school divisions, interdepartmental groups and local service providers to provide responsive and innovative supports and services that met the needs of all students.

Yukon Territory

INDEX OF ORGANIZATIONS

Provincial Educational Services

Yukon Department of Education: Special Programs
Division

Provincial Rehabilitation Services

Yukon Health and Social Services

Yukon Department of Education: Special Programs Division

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial educational services

Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6
Tel: (800) 661-0408
(867) 667-8000
(867) 393-6423 (Fax)
www.hss.gov.yk.ca/disabilities/other.html
Shirley Loo, Administrative Assistant,
Shirley.Loo@gov.yk.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide support to school personnel as they plan and implement educational programs for students with special educational needs. Assists with comprehensive student assessments and provides supportive programming, materials, and adaptive equipment on request.

Geographic area served: Yukon.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assessment: Provides functional vision assessment.

Education Services: Teachers for students with visual or hearing impairments assess the impact of the sensory

impairment on academic progress, assist in program modification and provide appropriate equipment as required.

Yukon Health and Social Services

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

■ Provincial rehabilitation services

307 Black Street
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6
Tel: (800) 661-0408
(867) 667-3673
(867) 393-3096 (Fax)
www.hss.gov.yk.ca
E-mail: hss@gov.yk.ca
Peter Jenkins, peter.jenkins@gov.yk.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To help individuals acquire the skills to live responsible, healthy and independent lives; to provide a range of accessible, affordable services that assist individuals, families and communities to reach their full potential.

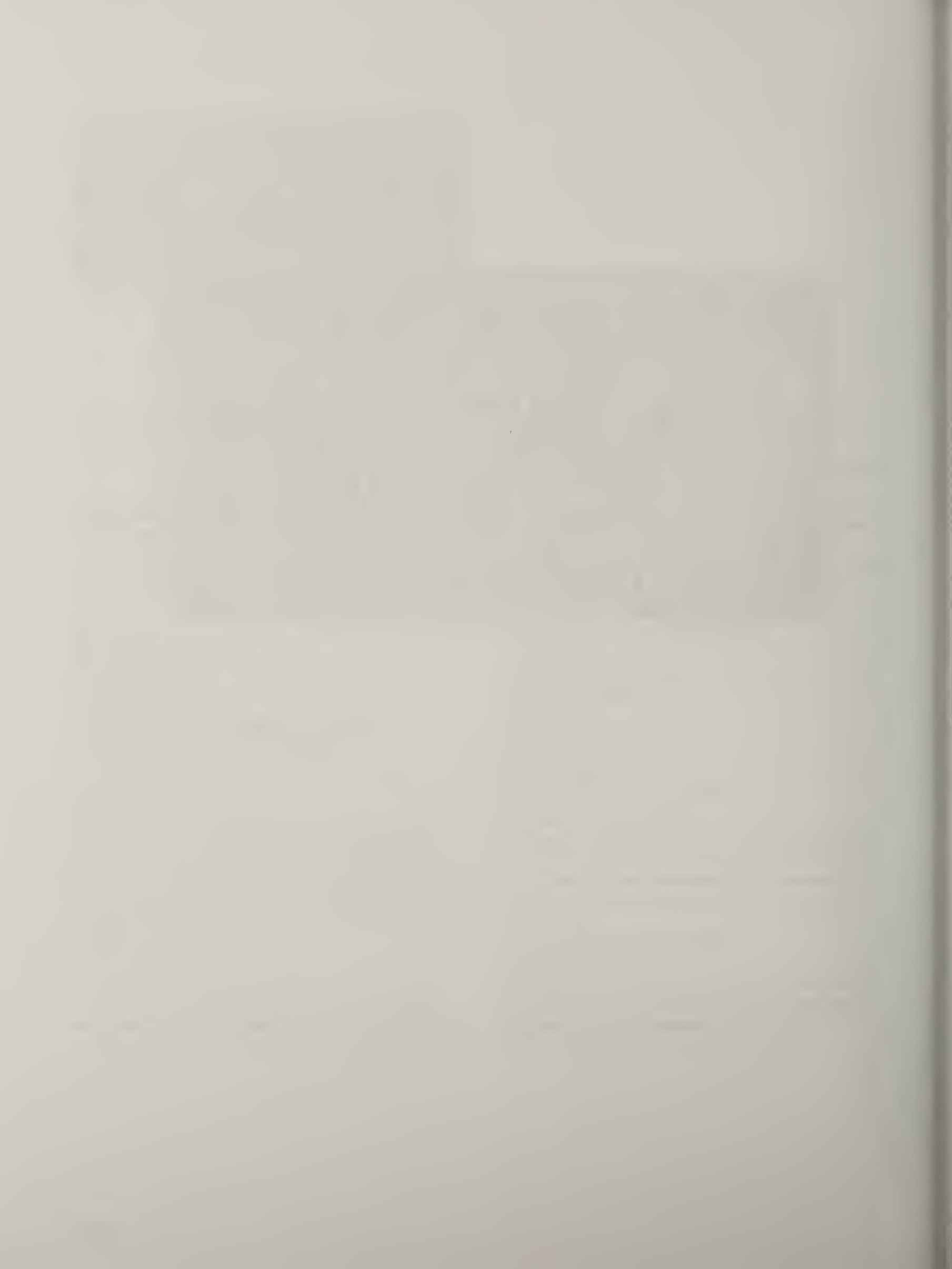
Geographic area served: Yukon.

SERVICES OFFERED

Rehabilitation: Offers a range of services, including financial assistance, inclusion supports, home care, employment and training services, supported, independent living, and respite care.

Section Three

**United States/Canadian
Publishers of Braille,
Audio, and Other
Nonprint Formats**



U.S./Canadian Publishers

American Bible Society

1865 Broadway
New York, NY 10023-7505
Tel: (212) 408-1200
(202) 408-1360 (Fax)
www.americanbible.org/
E-mail: info@americanbible.org
Eugene B. Habecker, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To translate, publish, and distribute the Scriptures in large print.

Established: 1816.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Funded by: Private donations.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Scriptures.

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired

See Pennsylvania.

Audio Editions

131 East Placer Street
P.O. Box 6930
Auburn, CA 95603
Tel: (800) 231-4261
(530) 888-7801
(530) 888-1840 (Fax)

www.audioeditions.com

E-mail: info@audioeditions.com

Marvin Goff, Vice President, Operations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.

County/District where located: Placer County.

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Publications: Catalog.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Audiobooks in all categories.

Aurora Ministries

P.O. Box 621

Bradenton, FL 34206

Tel: (941) 748-3031

(941) 748-2625 (Fax)

www.auroraministries.org

E-mail: tapes@auroraministries.org

Joseph R. Aleppo, President/CEO

Betty Pike, International Coordinator,

bpik@auroraministries.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To distribute the Bible on cassette in many languages at no charge and to produce talking book tapes and translations to other languages.

County/District where located: Manatee County.

Geographic area served: International.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** The Bible in several languages. Published the Bible in MP3 format in English.

BBC Audiobooks America

P.O. Box 1450
 Hampton, NH 03843-1450
 Tel: (800) 621-0182
 (603) 926-8744
 (603) 929-3890 (Fax)
 Kathie Slattery, Customer Service Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To publish large-print and audio books, including fiction and nonfiction.
County/District where located: Rockingham County.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Fiction and nonfiction.

BFI AudioBooks

1397 Hope Street
 Stamford, CT 06907
 Tel: (800) 260-7717
 (203) 968-2255
www.bfiaudiobooks.com/
 E-mail: Tomjoe@aol.com
 Julian Padowicz, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.
County/District where located: Fairfield County.
Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Funded by: Client fees.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** A diversity of subjects—computers, photography, the nature of domestic cats, dealing with angry and upset people, fundraising, and religion.

Blindskills

P.O. Box 5181
 Salem, OR 97304-0181
 Tel: (800) 860-4224
 (503) 581-4224
 (503) 581-0178 (Fax)
www.blindskills.com
 E-mail: blindskl@teleport.com
 Carol M. McCarl, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.
Publications: Quarterly magazine written by and for visually impaired people, available in large print, cassette, braille or disk. Other publications: Job

Hunting Resources For People With Vision Impairments, a handbook for visually impaired people who are seeking employment; Connie's Kitchen, a cookbook which includes many tips for low vision or blind cooks; Where Do I Go From Here, a free cassette for people who are just beginning to lose vision. The tape includes a companion piece, in print for family or friends, which gives suggestions for assisting someone with low vision.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print). **Types of content:** Topical periodical geared toward blind/visually impaired. Articles include adjustment techniques, mobility, employment, health, technology, cuisine, student issues, sports and recreation. **Information and Referral:** Provides blindness awareness presentations at conferences, schools, service clubs. Assists visually impaired people of all ages in obtaining the information, services, and products they can use to adapt to living with vision loss.

Support Groups: Sponsors a monthly local support group for those who are experiencing vision loss. Staff members can provide assistance to others interested in starting such support groups in their communities.

Books Aloud

150 E. San Fernando Street
 San Jose, CA 95112-3580
 Tel: (408) 808-2613
 (408) 808-4625 (Fax)
www.booksaloud.org/
 E-mail: info@booksaloud.org
 Joyce Meurer, Executive Director,
joycemeurer@booksaloud.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide and distribute educational materials to the blind, physically handicapped, mentally retarded, emotionally disturbed, elderly, shut-ins, either individually or to organizations or agencies whose primary purpose is the treatment, education, recreation, entertainment, and/or rehabilitation of such persons.
Established: 1973.
County/District where located: Santa Clara County.
Geographic area served: United States and Canada.
Eligibility requirements: Application signed by either physician, nurse, social worker, or teacher verifying disability.
Ages served: 0 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.
Staff: 40-50 volunteers in addition to 10 paid staff members.
Fee structure: No fees for clients.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Over 4,000 titles in the following categories: aviation, biography, classics, children's books, fiction, gothic, health, heritage, history, holiday, home crafts, humor, mystery, nature, poetry, psychic phenomena, psychology, religion and inspiration, romance, science fiction, sea stories, self-help, series, short stories, sports, spy, technology, travel, western.

Braille Institute of America, Inc. (BIA)

See California.

The Braille Superstore

See British Columbia.

Choice Magazine Listening

85 Channel Drive
Port Washington, NY 11050
Tel: (888) 724-6423
(516) 883-8280
(516) 944-6849 (Fax)
www.choicemagazinelistening.org
E-mail: choicemag@aol.com
Lois G. Miller, Office Manager
Michael Tedeschi, Webmaster/Circulation
Manager/Database Manager, ChoiceMag@Aol.Com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide bimonthly audiotapes of current magazine articles from over 100 magazines free of charge to blind, visually impaired, or physically handicapped people.

Established: 1962.

County/District where located: Nassau.

Geographic area served: United States.

Ages served: 15 to 120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM EST.

Clients served annually: 25000.

Staff: 6. 3 editors, 1 office manager, 1 webmaster/database manager.

Fee structure: Distributed free throughout the United States through regional libraries and individual subscription.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (cassette/tape). **Types of content:** Anthology of unabridged articles, fiction, and poetry selected from current periodicals recorded on 4-track cassette format.

Christian Record Services

4444 South 52nd Street
Lincoln, NE 68516
Tel: (402) 488-0981
(402) 488-7582 (Fax)
www.christianrecord.org/
E-mail: info@christianrecord.org
Larry J. Pitcher, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide free Christian publications and programs for persons with vision impairments.

Established: 1899.

Eligibility requirements: People who are blind, legally blind, or have physical impairments that prevent them from holding reading material.

Fee structure: All services are free.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Magazines, Bibles, Bible courses.

Financial Assistance: Offers partial scholarships to legally blind young people striving to obtain a college education.

Information and Referral: Provides referrals to other agencies that can provide assistance.

Library: Maintains a lending library with over 1,700 books in braille and cassette tape.

Recreation: Operates national camps for blind children throughout North America.

Jewish Braille Institute of America (JBI)

See U.S. National Organizations.

Kenneth Jernigan Library for Blind Children, American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults

18440 Oxnard Street
Tarzana, CA 91356
Tel: (818) 343-2022
(818) 343-3219 (Fax)
www.actionfund.org/
E-mail: twinvisionkjl@aol.com
Jean Norris, Director of Operations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 0 to 95.

Publications: Hot Line To Deaf-Blind (braille newspaper).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Calendars and weekly newspaper for people who are deaf-blind.

Library: Maintains a lending library for blind children, blind parents, and blind students in schools.

Large-Print Publishing Company

103 Forest Glen
West Springfield, MA 01089-1994
Tel: (413) 739-0894
(413) 731-9156 (Fax)
Norman D. Smith, Owner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.
County/District where located: Hampden.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print). **Types of content:** Crossword puzzles.

Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association

1740 Eugene Street
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
Tel: (651) 426-0469
www.lbea.org
E-mail: lbea@qwest.net
Dennis A. Hawkinson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To provide blind, deaf/blind and visually impaired persons devotional materials in braille, audio, large print, and digital formats.

Established: 1952.

County/District where located: Ramsey County.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Staff: Volunteer staff.

Fee structure: Donations.

Publications: Christian Magnifier, Tract Messenger, Lutheran Braille Evangelism Bulletin, King James Braille Bible, BibleCourier Talking Bible (digital Bible).

SERVICES OFFERED

Aging: Provides services in the areas of Braille/Audio/Large Print Production to older persons.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Bibles and other devotional materials.

Lutheran Braille Workers

13471 California Street
Yucaipa, CA 92399
Tel: (909) 795-8977
(909) 795-8970 (Fax)
www.lbwinc.org/
E-mail: lbw@lbwinc.org
Lloyd E. Coppenger, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1943.

County/District where located: San Bernardino County.

Eligibility requirements: Certification of blindness/visual impairment.

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Fee structure: All materials provided free.

Publications: The Bible and Christ-centered books.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, large print).

Types of content: Christian religious and educational materials. Some reference materials also provided.

Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind

80 Eighth Avenue
Room 1304
New York, NY 10011
Tel: (212) 242-0263
(212) 633-1601 (Fax)
www.zieglermag.org
E-mail: blind@verizon.net
Gregory G. Evanina, Editor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To publish a monthly general-interest magazine in braille and on four-track cassette.

Established: 1907.

County/District where located: Manhattan County.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Eligibility requirements: Legal blindness.

Ages served: 16 and above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Funded by: Endowments.

Fee structure: Free of charge to legally blind people throughout the world.

Publications: Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind (monthly, general interest), A Most Noble Benefaction (a history of Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape). **Types of content:** General interest monthly magazine.

National Braille Press (NBP)

88 St. Stephen Street
 Boston, MA 02115
 Tel: (888) 965-8965
 (617) 266-6160
 (617) 437-0456 (Fax)
 www.nbp.org
 E-mail: orders@nbp.org
 William M. Raeder, President, braeder@nbp.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To promote braille literacy through the ownership of braille publications at affordable prices, including children's and adult books, and to offer high-quality press braille services to other organizations.

Established: 1927.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Accessibility: Accessible to blind/visually impaired.

Staff: 40. Uses volunteer groups in addition to staff.

Fee structure: Publications for sale at prices comparable to print editions. Also contract work, and educational materials brailled.

Publications: Syndicated Columnists Weekly, Our Special, National Braille Press Release.

SERVICES OFFERED

Accessibility: Sells alternate format books including technical, children's literature, self-help, textbooks and others. Products for sale via mail order catalog and online.

Braille and Reading Instruction: ReadBooks! is a national children's braille literacy program to encourage families with blind children to read print/braille books together.

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials on demand in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Technical, children's literature, self-help, textbooks. On-demand materials include menus, event programs, business cards, airline safety brochures.

Information and Referral: Provides information about availability of literature in alternate formats. Refers to other publishers where appropriate.

Professional Training: Offers in-service training in braille transcription for employees of organization.

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

See U.S. National Organizations.

New York Times Large Type Weekly

609 Greenwich Street
 6th Floor
 New York, NY 10014
 Tel: (800) 631-2580 (For subscriptions)
 (212) 905-3391
 (212) 905-3436 (Fax)
 www.nytimes.com
 E-mail: barber@nytimes.com

Dan Barber, The New York Times Large Type
 Weekly/News Services Division,
 barber@nytimes.com

Peter Simmons, The New York Times Large Type
 Weekly/News Services Division, The News Services
 Division, simmons@nytimes.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To serve individuals who have difficulty reading regular-size type.

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: New York County.

Geographic area served: Mostly national but also available internationally.

Ages served: 21 and above.

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 10am-6pm.

Fee structure: Subscription fee \$78.00 per year (US), \$99.84 (outside US).

Publications: The New York Times, The New York Times Large Type Weekly.

Additional information: The New York Times Large Type Weekly provides analysis and perspective on the week's news from The New York Times and seeks to entertain with features, reviews and the crossword puzzle.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print). **Types of content:** Large-print newspaper.

Resources for Rehabilitation

22 Bonad Road
 Winchester, MA 01890
 Tel: (781) 368-9094
 (781) 368-9096 (Fax)
 www.rfr.org
 E-mail: info@rfr.org
 Susan Greenblatt, Training Director, slg@rfr.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To educate and inform service providers and the visually impaired people through instructional literature and books.

Established: 1987.

Funded by: Client fees.

Publications: Various books promoting independence for visually impaired persons. *Living with Low Vision: A Resource Guide for People with Sight Loss* (Large Print).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print). **Types of content:** Books and literature for consumers and professionals on a wide variety of disabilities, including visual impairment and blindness.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children

14151 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154-4522
Tel: (800) 777-8552
(734) 427-8552
(734) 427-8552 (Fax)
www.seedlings.org
E-mail: seedlink@aol.com

Debra J. Bonde, Director, seedlink@aol.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To increase the opportunity for literacy by providing high-quality, low-cost children's literature in braille.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Wayne County.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada, and foreign countries with English braille readers.

Eligibility requirements: None.

Ages served: 0 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Visitors may purchase books on site. Phone and fax available 24/7.

Accessibility: Parking for disabled, ramp available.

Budget: \$400,000.

Staff: 7.3 full-time, 4 part-time staff. Many dedicated volunteers.

Fee structure: Prices vary but average only \$10 per book.

Publications: Print-Braille-&-Picture books for toddlers and preschoolers. Print-and-Braille easy-readers for beginning readers. "Braille-Only" fiction, non-fiction, and poetry for more independent readers.

Additional information: Seedlings also runs "The Rose Project" for school-age children which enables them to obtain free World Book Encyclopedia articles in braille.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille). **Types of content:** Produces over 600 low-cost children's books in braille. Provides encyclopedia articles in braille for visually impaired students in grades 1-12.

Stephens Publishing Company

3542 Fair Oaks Lane
Longboat Key, FL 34228
Tel: (888) 714-4419
(941) 383-4398
(941) 383-5759 (Fax)
www.stephensmusicpub.com/

Steven P. Rausch, President, stevepub@home.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To create experimental publications for the benefit of piano teachers, students, and players.

Established: 1993.

County/District where located: Sarasota County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Sat. 12:00 AM-8:00 PM.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print). **Types of content:** Music sheets.

Thorndike Press

295 Kennedy Memorial Drive
Waterville, ME 04901
Tel: (800) 223-1244 (To order or request a catalog)
(800) 223-1244
(800) 558-4676 (Fax)
www.gale.com/thorndike
E-mail: debbie.ludden@thomson.com

Debbie Ludden, Marketing Manager, (207) 859-1020,
(207) 859-1009 (Fax), debbie.ludden@thomson.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission: To publish current bestselling books and more in an easy-to-read large print format.

Established: 1980.

County/District where located: Waldo County.

Geographic area served: Across the entire United States.

Ages served: 10 to 110.

Additional information: Thorndike Press publishes and distributes more than 1,500 large print titles each year.

SERVICES OFFERED

Assistive Products: Large-print books.

Transaction Large Print

Rutgers University
35 Berrue Circle
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8042
Tel: (732) 445-2280
(732) 445-3138 (Fax)
www.transactionpub.com
E-mail: trans@transactionpub.com

Mary E. Curtis, President,
mcurtis@transactionpub.com
Irving Louis Horowitz, Chairman and Editorial
Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Middlesex County.
Geographic area served: International.
Ages served: 21 and above.
Publications: Fiction and nonfiction large-print books.

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (large print). **Types of content:** Fiction and nonfiction.

Xavier Society for the Blind

154 East 23rd Street
New York, NY 10010
Tel: (212) 473-7800
Alfred Caruana, S.J., Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1900.
County/District where located: New York County.
Geographic area served: United States and Canada.
Certain services extended to English speaking blind persons overseas.
Eligibility requirements: Certificate of blindness required.
Ages served: 8 and above.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:45 PM.
Fee structure: All services free of charge.
Publications: Spiritual and inspirational literature (braille, large print, and on tape).

SERVICES OFFERED

Braille/Audio/Large Print Production: Produces materials in alternate formats (braille, cassette/tape, large print). **Types of content:** Provides a variety of devotional materials in accessible formats. Catalogs available in all three media.
Library: Maintains free lending library of braille, large-type, and books on tape of exclusively religious nature.



Section Four

**United States/Canadian
Manufacturers/Distributors
of Products for Persons
with Visual Impairments**

U.S./Canadian Products

AbleSee

3930 Leonard
Saint-Hubert, PQ J3Y 5M2
Tel: (450) 462-2225 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(450) 462-2805 (Fax)
(800) 363-6026 (Toll-Free)
www.ablesee.com
E-mail: info@beaujoie.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: AbleSee creates and produces overlays for computer keyboards, office machines and industrial equipment.

Distribution channels: Catalog.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print).

A.T. Kratter & Company, Inc.

12062 Valley View Street, Suite 109
Garden Grove, CA 92845-1739
Tel: (714) 799-3000
(714) 799-3100 (Fax)
(877) 799-3001 (Toll-Free)
www.atkratter.com
E-mail: info@atkratter.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: A.T. Kratter & Company is a full service distributor specializing in adaptive technology, both computer and video magnification for all levels of visual impairment.

Established: 1993.

County/District where located: Orange County.

Geographic area served: Southern California, Arizona.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

Staff description: Sales, Technical Support and Training, Administrative Staff.

Customer service/technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator); GPS Hardware (Trekker); Optical Character Recognition Systems (OPENBook); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (PAC Mate BX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400); (Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, MAGic, ZoomText); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional, Window-Eyes Standard); Speech Products (Dragon NaturallySpeaking's).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (ERGO CCTV, OVAC 300/200, OVAC 700/500).

Access Ingenuity

3635 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Tel: (707) 579-4380
(707) 579-4273 (Fax)
(877) 579-4380 (Toll-Free)
www.accessingenuity.com
E-mail: access@accessingenuity.com

Michael Parker, Director,
michaelp@accessingenuity.com
Lesley Ann Gibbons, Administrator,
lesleyg@accessingenuity.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2002.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Customer service/technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Intellikeys.

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80); Braille

Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, OpenBook Version 6.0); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (PAC Mate BX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, MAGic, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional). **Low Vision:** Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Affinity, Affinity Basic, Affinity Supreme, ERGO CCTV, Quicklook).

Access Solutions

4536 Edison Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95821
Tel: (916) 481-3559
(916) 482-2250(Fax)
www.axsol.com/welcome.html
E-mail: info@axsol.com
Mike Cozzolino, President, mike@axsol.com

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Speech Synthesizers (DECtalk PC2, Triple Talk USB).

ADA Solutions, Inc.

One Survey Circle, 2nd Floor
North Billerica, MA 01862
Tel: (978) 262-9900
(978) 262-9125(Fax)
(800) 372-0519(Toll-Free)
www.adatile.com
E-mail: adafab@aol.com
Helmut H. Klohn, Operations Manager,
hklohn@hotmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company Profile: ADA Solutions designs, manufactures and installs detectable warning systems.

Ai Squared

130 Taconic Business Park Road
Manchester Center, VT 05255
Tel: (802) 362-3612
(802) 362-1670(Fax)
(800) 859-0270(Toll-Free)
www.aisquared.com
E-mail: sales@aisquared.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1986.
Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Ages served: 5-95.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot, ZoomText, ZoomText 8.1).

All inPlay LLC

P.O. Box 335
Oxford, MA 01540
Tel: (413) 585-9690 (Customer support line)
www.allinplay.com
E-mail: info@allinplay.com
Paul G. Silva, Cofounder & Community Director,
p@allinplay.com
Jeremie Spitzer, Cofounder & Director of Educational
Games Initiative, j@allinplay.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: All inPlay is an online community that offers games for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 2000.

Distribution channels: Online.

Ages served: 13 and above.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM EST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

AmbuTech

34 De Baets Street
Winnipeg, MB R2J 3S9
Tel: (204) 663-3340
(800) 267-5059(Fax)
(800) 561-3340(Toll-Free)
www.ambutech.com
E-mail: orders@ambutech.com
Tony Russell, Vice President, Sales

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: AmbuTech is a manufacturer / marketer of mobility products for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Established: 1990.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Mobility Canes.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH)

P.O. Box 6085
1839 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206-0085
Tel: (502) 895-2405
(502) 899-2274(Fax)
(800) 223-1839(Toll-Free)
www.aph.org
E-mail: info@aph.org

Tuck Tinsley III, President, ttinsley@aph.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1858.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Calculators (Talking).

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Magni-Cam).

Educational Technology: Learn Keys, Talking Typer.

American Thermoform Corporation (ATC)

1758 Bracket Street
La Verne, CA 91750
Tel: (909) 593-6711
(909) 593-8001 (Fax)
(800) 331-3676 (Toll-Free)
www.americanthermoform.com
E-mail: sales@americanthermoform.com
Ruth Haggen, Vice President,
rhaggen@americanthermoform.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Printers (Braillo 200, Braillo 400s, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, Megadots).

Aroga

#150-5055 Joyce Street
Vancouver, BC V5R 6B2
Tel: (604) 431-7997
(604) 431-7995 (Fax)
(800) 561-6222 (Toll-Free)
www.aroga.com/index.asp
E-mail: sales@aroga.com

Bob Vigerut, President, bob@aroga.com
Ryan Fleury, Blindness Products Sales and Support,
ryan@aroga.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1987.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Audible Tactile Signs and Warning Surfaces: Hand Guide.

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Focus Braille Displays); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Braille Express, ET, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Marathon Brailier, Romeo Braille); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M40, BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote QT); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, inLarge Version, MAGic, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows).

Low Vision: (Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Companion, Aladdin Pro 75, Aladdin Rainbow, Aladdin Rainbow Pro, Aladdin Ultra, Aladdin Ultra Pro 75, Atlas 600, Atlas 610, Atlas 700, FlipperPort, Jordy, Max, MaxEye, MaxPort, Merlin).

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

#325, 10106 -111 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5G 0B4
E-mail: carrie@aroga.com

Artic Technologies

1000 John R Road, Suite 108
Troy, MI 48083
Tel: (248) 588-7370
(248) 588-2650 (Fax)
www.artictech.com
E-mail: info@artictech.com

Kathy Gargaliano, Vice President, Operations,
Kathy@artictech.com

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Desk 2000, Braille Lite M20, Ergo Braille); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Artic SQWERT, Artic TransType); Screen Magnification Systems (Magnum 95, Magnum DeLuxe); Screen

Readers (Artic Vision for DOS); Speech Synthesizer (Artic Spirit, Artic TransPort, ArticSynPhonix P27).

Associated Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired (ASB)

919 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Tel: (215) 627-0600

(215) 922-0692 (Fax)

www.asb.org

E-mail: asbinfo@asb.org

Patricia C. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer &
President, (215) 627-0600 Ext. #3296,
pjohnson@asb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

County/District where located: Philadelphia County.

Geographic area served: Southeastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey.

Ages served: 18 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 300.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Priced.

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Screen Magnification Systems (Magnum 95).

ATLA Adaptive Materials Center

2217 East Tudor, Suite 4

Anchorage, AK 99507

Tel: (907) 563-2599

(907) 563-0699 (Fax)

www.atlaak.com

E-mail: atla@atlaak.com

Kathy Privratsky, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 3000, OpenBook Version 6.0); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, MAGic, ZoomText); Screen Readers (JAWS for Windows).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Companion, Aladdin Rainbow Pro, Aladdin Sunshine, ClearView 300, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 517, ClearView 700, Flipper, FlipperPort, Genie Pro, Jordy, Merlin, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 8000).

Educational Technology: Intellikeys.

Attainment Company

504 Commerce Parkway

Verona, WI 53593-0160

Tel: (608) 845-7880

(800) 942-3865 (Fax)

(800) 327-4267 (Toll-Free)

www.attainmentcompany.com

E-mail: info@attainmentcompany.com

Brent Denu, Director, Sales/Marketing

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Primarily serves people with developmental disabilities.

Established: 1979.

County/District where located: Dane County.

Geographic area served: All of the United States as well as other countries.

Ages served: 3-120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM CST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living

Products: Calculators (Big Button), Calculators (Talking), Key Chain (Talking).

Educational Technology: Intellikeys.

Audio Visual Mart, Inc.

648 Hickory Avenue

Harahan, LA 70183

Tel: (504) 733-1500

(504) 733-1662 (Fax)

(504) 733-1500 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 737-6278 (Toll-Free)

www.av-mart.com

E-mail: info@av-mart.com

Rick Payton, President, jpp@av-mart.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1977.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 340, Alva ABT 380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Star, Braille Wave, Braille Window 45, Braillex 2D, Braillex EL 2D-80, Braillex EL 40p, Braillex EL 80, Braillex EL-2D 40, Braillex EL-2D 66, Focus Braille

Displays); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Braille BookMaker, ET, Index 4x4, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Marathon Brailler, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, GOODFEEL Braille, GOODFEEL Lite, MegaDots); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, OPENBook, OpenBook Version 6.0, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Desk 2000, Braille Express, Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote QT, Braillex EL Braille Assistant); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Voice Mate, VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, inLarge Version, MAGic, Magnum 95, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for Windows, Vocal-Eyes, Window-Eyes Professional); Windows-Based Web Browsers.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Companion, Aladdin Pro 75, Aladdin Rainbow, Aladdin Rainbow Pro, Aladdin Ultra, Aladdin Ultra Pro 75, Atlas 600, Atlas 610, Atlas 700, Big Picture, Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 700, Discovery Inline, Explorer 15, Explorer 17, Explorer 19, Explorer 20, Explorer 25, Explorer PC, FlipperPort, Genie Pro, Jordy, Magni-Cam, Max, MaxPort, Merlin, OVAC 300/200, OVAC 700/500, Portable Magni-Cam, Powervision, Powervision Plus, Powervision Portable, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000); Low Vision Devices (Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Mini Reader System, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers, TravelViewer, VES-AutoFocus Telescope, VES(r)-K, VES(r)II, VES(r)Mini, Viewpoint Series, Viso-Flex, Visual Magnifier).

Products for Deaf-Blind/Multiple Disabled Persons: Braille phone for people who are deaf-blind, Comm Lite.

Educational Technology: Custom Keyboards, Franklin Language Master 6000 SE, VisAble Calculator.

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Offers training in the use of computer operating systems, database software, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifier/CCTV, and word processing software. Offers training for instructors.

Avida

Box 2
Park Ridge, NJ 07656
Tel: (201) 802-0749
(201) 391-2308 (Fax)

Herman Kruegle, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (LV105, LV107).

Bartimaeus Group

1481 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 100
McLean, VA 22101
Tel: (703) 442-5023
(703) 734-8381 (Fax)
www.bartsite.com
E-mail: adapt2c@bartsite.com

Mary Smith, Vice President, mary@bartsite.com
Mark Lohman, President, markl@bartsite.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM EST.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40, 65, and 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, VersaPoint Brailler); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, PAC Mate BX400, Type Lite); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400, Type 'n Speak); Optical Character Recognition Systems (VERA Reading Machine).

Educational Technology: SAL (Speech Assisted Learning).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, OVAC 300/200, OVAC 700/500, TravelViewer).

Bavisoft

P.O. Box #8
Dewitt, NY 13214
www.bavisoft.com
E-mail: help@bavisoft.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1999.

Geographic area served: International.

Staff description: Programmers, computer technicians, sales and marketing, shipping, accounting.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.
Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Games, Speech (Grizzly Grunch Western Extravaganza, Chillingham).

Beyond Sight, Inc.

5650 South Windermere Street
 Littleton, CO 80120
 Tel: (303) 795-6455
 (303) 795-6425 (Fax)
 www.beyondsight.com
 E-mail: bsistore@beyondsight.com
 Jim Misener, President, jim@beyondsight.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1989.
County/District where located: Arapahoe.
Hours of operation: Tues.-Sat. 9:30 AM-4:30 PM MST.
Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.
Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Cell Phones: TALKS.

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Star, Braille Voyager 44, Braille Voyager 70, Braille Wave, Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, ET, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Digital Talking Book Players-Hardware (Telex Scholar, Victor Reader Classic Plus, Victor Reader Vibe); Digital Talking Book Players-Software (Victor Reader Soft); GPS Hardware (Trekker); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, VERA Reading Machine, OPENBook, OPENBook Version 6.0); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille 'n Speak 2000, PAC Mate BX400, Mobile Phone Organizer (MPO); Type Lite); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400, Type 'n Speak); Screen Magnification Systems (inLarge Version, Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, MAGic, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Hal, JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows, Vocal-Eyes, Voice Mate, Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Products (BookCourier, LapTalk, LapTalk Deluxe); Speech Synthesizers (DECtalk Access32,

DECtalk Express, DECtalk PC2, DoubleTalk LT, DoubleTalk PC, DoubleTalk PC/104, Triple Talk USB).
Educational Technology: SAL (Speech Assisted Learning).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Address Book (Large Print); C2 Talking Compass, Calculators (Big Button); Calculators (Talking); Calendar (Large Print); Caller ID (Talking); Clocks (Talking); Color Teller, ID Mate, Keitzer Multipurpose Check Writing Guide, Key Chain (Talking); Label Kits for Keyboards (Braille); Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print); Large Print and Braille Key Labels, Liquid Level Indicator II, Mirrors (Magnifying); Mobility Canes, Note Teller2, Pens (Bold Felt-tip Pens); Perkins Brailier, Pill Holder (Braille); Remote Control (Universal Large Button); Sewing Supplies, Talking Indoor/Outdoor Thermometer, Telephone (Big Button); Watches (Braille); Watches (Large Print); Watches (Talking Watch); Watches (Vibrating); Weighing Scales (Talking); Writing Guides
Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Companion, Aladdin Pro 75, Aladdin Rainbow, Aladdin Rainbow Pro, Aladdin Ultra, Aladdin Ultra Pro 75, Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700, Explorer 15, Explorer 17, Explorer 19, Explorer 20, Explorer 25, Explorer PC, Flipper, FlipperPort, Genie Pro, Jordy, MaxPort, Merlin, Max, MaxPanel/FlipperPanel); Low Vision Devices (Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, No Focus Magnifiers, Nonilluminated Devices, Quicklook, Rectangular Aspherical Halogen Magnifiers, Stand Magnifiers, The Prisma.
Medical Products: Eye Drop Guide, Talking Scale, Talking Thermometer.

Braille Research & Literacy, Inc. (BRL, Inc.)

110 Commerce Drive, Suite 210
 Fayetteville, GA 30214
 Tel: (770) 716-9222
 (770) 716-9599 (Fax)
 (877) 993-4994 (Toll-Free)
 www.wyfiwyg.com
 E-mail: comments@wyfiwyg.com
 Peter Duran, President, (770) 716-9222

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: BRL, Inc. provides accessible computer products and Windows tutorials to people who are blind or visually impaired.
Established: 1988.
County/District where located: Fayette County.
Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 13-120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 150.

Staff description: President and administrative assistant.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Windows Tutorials (A Verbal View of Windows).

Brytech

600 Peter Morand Crescent
Suite 240

Ottawa, ON K1G 5Z3

Tel: (613) 731-5800

(613) 731-5812 (Fax)

www.brytech.com

E-mail: inquiries@brytech.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1982.

Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Color Teller, Note Teller2, The Bank Note Reader (B.N.R.)

BUGZ-EYE International Corporation

1510 S. Utica Street

Denver, CO 80219

Tel: (303) 937-0943

(303) 937-0943 (Fax)

(888) 284-7393 (Toll-Free)

www.bugz-eye.com

Gary D. Gilman, President, (303) 937-0943,
gary@bugz-eye.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1996.

County/District where located: Denver County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 2000.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (No Focus Magnifiers).

C TECH

2 North William Street

Pearl River, NY 10965

Tel: (845) 735-7907 x18

(845) 735-0513 (Fax)

(800) 228-7798 (Toll-Free)

www.lowvisionproducts.com

E-mail: info@lowvisionproducts.com

Chuck Cohen, Chief Executive Officer, (845) 735-7907

Ext. #18, chuck@magnifyit.com

Karen Ablondi, Service and Marketing Manager,

karen@magnifyit.com

Darlene Armodt, Office Manager,

darlene@magnifyit.com

Edie Finklestein, Accounting, (845) 735-7907 Ext. #21,

edie@magnifyit.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: C TECH distributes Optelec low vision and braille products, as well as products from Freedom Scientific, Ai Squared, Alva, Betacom, Duxbury, Enhanced Vision, Freedom Vision, Humanware and Kurzweil Educational Systems.

Established: 1984.

County/District where located: Rockland County.

Geographic area served: New York, New Jersey, Malaysia.

Ages served: 8-110

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, Sat. by appointment.

Clients served annually: 1500.

Staff description: 3 office staff, 8 salesmen, 3 part-time trainers.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Voyager 44, Braille Voyager 70, Braille Star, Braille Window 45, Focus 70, Focus 84, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Mountbatten Brailier, Paragon Braille Printer, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Digital Talking Book Players-Hardware (Victor Reader Classic Plus, Victor Vibe); Digital Talking Book Players-Software (Victor Reader Soft); GPS Hardware (Trekker); GPS Software (BrailleNote GPS); Miscellaneous Speech Products (LapTalk, LapTalk Deluxe); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, OPENBook, ScannaR, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18,

Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote QT, PAC Mate BX400, Type Lite); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400, Type 'n Speak, Voice Mate, VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, Lunar Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, MAGic, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows, Vocal-Eyes, Window-Eyes Professional, Window-Eyes Standard); Speech Synthesizers (Accent, Keynote Companion, KeyNote Gold Multilingual, KeyNote Multi-Media); Tutorials (Speaking of Microsoft Access, Speaking of Microsoft Excel, Speaking of Microsoft Word, Speaking of Outlook Express, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Eudora, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Outlook Express, Speaking of Windows, Speaking of WordPerfect).

Educational Technology: SAL (Speech Assisted Learning).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Clocks (Low Vision), Clocks (Talking), Telephone (Big Button).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (20/20 Series, ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, Max, MaxEye, MaxPanel/FlipperPanel, MaxPort, Outlook Series, Passport, Quicklook, Spectrum Series, The Traveller); Low Vision Devices (Dome Magnifier, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers, Viso-Flex, Visual Magnifier).

Products for Deaf-Blind/Multiple Disabled Persons: Comm Lite.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Fairport: 629 Plank Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065, seeitbig@yahoo.com

Fairport: 44 Bent Oak Trail, Fairport, NY 14450

California Canes

16267 Walnut Street
Hesperia, CA 92345

Tel: (760) 956-5265

(760) 956-7477 (Fax)

(866) 332-4883 (Toll-Free)

www.californiacanes.com

E-mail: californiacanes@charter.net

Tami Carmer, President and CEO

Jeff Carmer, Head of Research and Development

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1993.

Geographic area served: USA, Canada, and overseas.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Mobility Canes.

Captek dba Science Products

1043 Lincoln Highway

Berwyn, PA 19312

Tel: (610) 296-2111

(800) 888-7400 (Toll-Free)

E-mail: lee@captek.net

Lee Benham, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Captek specializes in voice adaptation of equipment for employment and produces the following talking products: cash registers, coin sorters and counters, currency counting and recognition devices, a variety of legal for trade scales, scientific, financial, statistical, accounting calculators, and machine shop tools. Captek also does custom adaptations.

Established: 1965.

Geographic area served: United States.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog.

PRODUCTS

Medical Product: Glucose Modules, Blood Pressure Modules.

Carolyn's

1415 57th Avenue West

Bradenton, FL 34207

Tel: (941) 739-5555

(941) 739-5503 (Fax)

(800) 648-2266 (Toll-Free)

www.carolynscatalog.com

E-mail: sales@carolynscatalog.com

John Colton, Owner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Note Teller2.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Insight, Flipper, FlipperPort, Freedom Machine, Merlin, VTI FM2020, Prisma).

Clarity

6409 Alisal Street
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Tel: (925) 484-3800
(925) 484-3801 (Fax)
(800) 575-1456 (Toll-Free)
www.clarityUSA.com
E-mail: clarity@clarityUSA.com

Dave Brody, CEO, (925) 484-3800 Ext. #202,
dbrody@clarityUSA.com
Elizabeth Brody, President, (925) 484-3800 Ext. #203,
ebrody@clarityUSA.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1995.

Geographic area served: United States, Canada, UK.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM PST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, Discovery Inline, TravelViewer).

SERVICES OFFERED

Consultation/Technical Assistance: Provides training and support in the use of video magnifiers. Repairs video magnifiers.

Compusult Limited

40 Bannister Street
Mount Pearl, NL A1N 3C9
Tel: (709) 745-7914
(709) 745-7927 (Fax)
(888) 388-8180 (Toll-Free)
www.hear-it.com
E-mail: hear-it@compusult.nf.ca

Paul T. Mitten, Vice President, mitten@compusult.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1985.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, Screen Readers).

Computer Application Specialties

P.O. Box 22219
Lincoln, NE 68542-2219
Tel: (402) 423-4782
(402) 432-5154 (Fax)
www.c-a-s.com/casc.htm

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Braille Desk 2000).

CrissCross Technologies (CCT)

110-64 Queens Boulevard, #406
Forest Hills, NY 11375
Tel: (212) 569-7432
www.crisscrosstech.com
E-mail: info@crisscrosstech.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: CrissCross Technologies creates and sells audio tutorials and educational software.

Established: 1996.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Tutorials (Speaking of Microsoft Access, Speaking of Microsoft Excel, Speaking of Microsoft Word, Speaking of Outlook Express, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Eudora, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Outlook Express, Speaking of Windows, Speaking of WordPerfect).

CTP Coil Inc. (COIL)

1801-D Howard Street
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Tel: (847) 228-8818
(847) 593-3930 (Fax)
(800) 933-2645 (Toll-Free)
www.coil.co.uk

Janice M. Pope, Sales Manager, (847) 228-8818,
jpope@iwic.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1965.

Geographic area served: Entire United States, Canada, and various foreign countries.

Ages served: 5-120.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, Nonilluminated Devices).

Dancing Dots

1754 Quarry Lane
Valley Forge, PA 19482
Tel: (610) 783-6692
(610) 783-6732 (Fax)
www.dancingdots.com
E-mail: info@dancingdots.com
Bill McCann, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1992.

Geographic area served: Global with international dealers.

Ages served: 0-120

Hours of operation: Standard business hours EST.

Staff description: Sales, Development, Office Manager, Tech Support.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Focus Braille Displays); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Braille BookMaker, Braille Express, ET, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro); Braille Translators (Braille Translator, Duxbury, GOODFEEL Braille, GOODFEEL Lite); Optical Character Recognition Systems (OpenBook); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000); Screen Magnification Systems (MAGic); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows).

Datacal

1345 North Mondel Drive
Gilbert, AZ 85233
Tel: (480) 813-3100
(480) 545-8090 (Fax)
(800) 223-0123 (Toll-Free)
www.datacal.com
E-mail: info@datacal.com
E. James Lunt, CEO, (480) 813-3101
Kyra Keffer, Sales Representative, kkeffer@datacal.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Maricopa County.

Geographic area served: United States, International.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Custom Keyboards.

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Label Kits for Keyboards (Braille), Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print).

Dazor Manufacturing Corporation

4483 Duncan Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110
Tel: (314) 652-2400
(314) 652-2069 (Fax)
(800) 345-9103 (Toll-Free)
www.dazor.com
E-mail: info@dazor.com
Kirk. W. Cressey, Marketing Director, (314) 652-2400, kcressey@dazor.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1938.

County/District where located: St. Louis County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Stand Magnifiers).

Designs for Vision, Inc.

760 Koehler Avenue
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
Tel: (631) 585-3300
(631) 585-3404 (Fax)
(800) 345-4009 (Toll-Free)
www.designsforvision.com
E-mail: info@designsforvision.com
Jody Klager, Low Vision Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Nonilluminated Devices).

Dolphin Computer Access Inc. (DCA)

60 East Third Avenue, Suite 301
San Mateo, CA 94401
Tel: (650) 348-7401
(650) 348-7403 (Fax)
(866) 797-5921 (Toll-Free)
www.dolphinusa.com
E-mail: info@dolphinusa.com
Helen Duggan, Operational Manager, Sales and Operations, helen@dolphinusa.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Dolphin creates software products that allow visually impaired people to use mainstream information technology. Dolphin software is designed to work together with existing computer systems, providing access to a wide range of Windows programs through magnification, speech and braille. Founded in 1986 in the United Kingdom, the Dolphin Group now includes companies in the UK, USA and Sweden, and its product range encompasses both access and audio publishing technology.

Established: 1986.

County/District where located: San Mateo County.

Geographic area served: Worldwide. Direct support or via dealers in more than 40 countries.

Ages served: 5 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:30 PM.

Clients served annually: 500+.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Display (Mod 80); Braille Translators (Cipher Braille Translator); Screen Magnification Systems (Cicero Text Reader, Lunar Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows); Screen Readers (Hal); Speech Synthesizers (Apollo).

Duxbury Systems, Inc.

270 Littleton Road, Unit 6
Westford, MA 01886-3523
Tel: (978) 692-3000
(978) 692-7912 (Fax)
www.duxburysystems.com
E-mail: info@duxsys.com

Neal Kuniansky, Marketing Director, (978) 692-3000
Dan Thibert, Sales and Customer Service, (978)
692-3000, orders@duxsys.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1975.

Geographic area served: Worldwide.

Ages served: 0-above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots).

EnableMart

400 Columbia Street, Suite 100
Vancouver, WA 98660-3413
Tel: (360) 695-4155 (Local)
(360) 695-4133 (Fax)
www.enablemart.com
E-mail: sales@enablemart.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Star, Focus); Braille Printers (Juliet Classic, Juliet Pro, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, Braille Blazer, Marathon Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Optical Character Recognition Systems (OPENBook, Ovation); Personal Digital Assistant-Braille (Braille 'n Speak 2000, VoiceNote BT, Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40); Personal Digital Assistant-Speech (Type Lite, Type 'n Speak, VoiceNote QT, Voice Mate); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, MAGic, ZoomText); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, Home Page Reader, JAWS (Job Access with Speech) for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional).

Educational Technology: Custom Keyboards, Franklin Language Master 6000 SE.

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living

Products: Color Teller, Liquid Level Indicator II, Note Teller2, Perkins Brailier, Telephone (Big Button), Watches (Large Print), Watches (Talking Watch).

Low Vision: Video magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Rainbow, Aladdin Sunshine, Aladdin Ultra, Clarity Flex, Max, MaxPort,

Enabling Technologies Company

1601 Northeast Braille Place
Jensen Beach, FL 34957
Tel: (772) 225-3687 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(772) 225-3299 (Fax)
(800) 777-3687 (Toll-Free)
www.brailier.com
E-mail: enabling@brailier.com
Tony Schenk, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1971.

County/District where located: Martin County.

Geographic area served: International.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Printers (Braille BookMaker, Braille Express, ET, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Marathon Brailier, PED-30, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, Thomas 40); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator).

Enhanced Vision Systems

17911 Sampson Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92647
Tel: (714) 374-1829 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(714) 374-1821 (Fax)
(888) 811-3161 (Toll-Free)
www.enhancedvision.com
E-mail: info@enhancedvision.com
Scott Drake, Operations Manager,
scott@enhancedvision.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1996.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, MaxPort, Merlin).

Envision America

2012 W. College Avenue, Suite 200
Normal, IL 61761
Tel: (309) 452-3088 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(309) 452-3643 (Fax)
(800) 890-1180 (Toll-Free)
www.envisionamerica.com
E-mail: envision@envisionamerica.com
Philip Raisterick, President

PRODUCTS

Medical Products: ScripTalk Talking Prescription Reader.

Eschenbach Optik of America, Inc.

904 Ethan Allen Highway
Ridgefield, CT 06877
Tel: (203) 438-7471 (For eye care and rehabilitation professionals only)
Phone #2: (203) 438-1670 (Fax)
(800) 487-5389 (Toll-Free) (For eye care and rehabilitation professionals only)
www.eschenbach.com
E-mail: info@eschenbach.com

Ken Bradley, President, Ophthalmic Division,
ktb@eschenbach.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Eschenbach only sells its products to eye care and rehabilitation professionals. Consumers are referred to (800) 396-3886 for assistance from local low vision care providers.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Distribution channels: Catalog.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTV (Aladdin Companion); Low Vision Devices (Elg, Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Magna-Bar, Magna-Rule, MagniViewer, Nonilluminated Devices, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers).

EVAS

39 Canal Street
Westerley, RI 02891
Tel: (401) 596-3155 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(401) 596-3979 (Fax)
(401) 596-3500 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 872-3827 (Toll-Free)
www.evas.com/
E-mail: contact@evas.com
Jerry Swerdlick, CEO

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, PowerBraille 40 and 80, PowerBraille 65, PowerBraille 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Juliet Pro, Marathon Brailier, Mountbatten Brailier, Romeo Braille 25, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo, Thomas 40); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Optical Character Recognition Systems (OpenBook, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (BrailleNote BT); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (BrailleNote QT, VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (Cicero Text Reader, Lunar Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, MAGic, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows); Screen Readers (Hal, JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Synthesizers (DECtalk Access32, DECtalk Express).

Educational Technology: Tactile Image Enhancer, Thermo-Pen.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Clarity Classmate, Clarity TravelMate, FlipperPort, Max, MaxPort).

Exceptional Teaching Aids

20102 Woodbine Avenue
 Castro Valley, CA 94546
 Tel: (510) 582-4859 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (510) 582-5911 (Fax)
 (800) 549-6999 (Toll-Free)
www.exceptionalteaching.com
 E-mail: ExTeaching@aol.com
 Phil Manggold, Owner/Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-4:00 PM PST.
Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Dot Marker Collection, SAL Speech Assisted Learning System, Touch and Color.

Fishburne Enterprises

140 East Stetson Avenue
 Hemet, CA 92543
 Tel: (909) 765-9276 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (909) 766-0843 (Fax)
 Paul Miller, Proprietor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-2:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Tactile Alphabet.

Freedom Scientific: Blindness and Low Vision Group

11800 31st Court North
 St. Petersburg, FL 33716
 Tel: (727) 803-8000 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (727) 803-8001 (Fax)
 (800) 444-4443 (Toll-Free)
www.freedomscientific.com/
 E-mail: Info@FreedomScientific.com
 Brad Davis, Marketing Director,
bradd@freedomscientific.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2000.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 AM-7:00 PM.
Distribution channels: Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, VersaPoint Duo); Optical Character Recognition Systems (VERA Reading Machine);

Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Type 'n Speak, Type Lite); Screen Magnification Systems (MAGic, OpenBook); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows).

Freedom Vision

615 Tami Way
 Mountain View, CA 94041
 Tel: (650) 961-6541
 (650) 968-4740 (Fax)
 (800) 961-1334 (Toll-Free)
www.freedomvision.net
 E-mail: info@freedomvision.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Freedom Vision is the exclusive authorized U.S. Distributor for all print magnification products designed and manufactured by Ash Technologies Ltd. in Naas, Ireland.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (The Prisma).

Gladys Loeb Foundation

2002 Forest Hill Drive
 Silver Spring, MD 20903-1532
 Tel: (301) 434-7748
 E-mail: gelfdn@starpower.net
 Ernest Loeb, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Cooking Rings, Large Print and Braille Key Labels.

GW Micro

725 Airport North Office Park
 Fort Wayne, IN 46825
 Tel: (260) 489-3671 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (260) 489-2608 (Fax)
www.gwmicro.com
 E-mail: sales@gwmicro.com

Erik Deckers, Director, Sales and Marketing, (260) 489-3671, erik@gwmicro.com
 Dan Weirich, VP, Marketing and Engineering, (260) 489-3671, dan@gwmicro.com
 Clarence Whaley, Training Division Manager, (615) 383-6248, clarence@gwmicro.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro); Braille Printers (Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Synthesizers (DECtalk Access32, Triple Talk USB); Tutorials (A Verbal View of Windows, Speaking of Microsoft Access, Speaking of Microsoft Excel, Speaking of Microsoft Word, Speaking of Outlook Express, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Eudora, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Outlook Express, Speaking of Windows, Speaking of WordPerfect).

Hand Guide

29 Friends Lane

Newtown, PA 18940

Tel: (800) 809-1849 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(215) 860-4650 (Fax)

(800) 809-1849 (Toll-Free)

www.guideline-technologies.com

E-mail: customerservice@guideline-technologies.com

Tony Rogers, President, (215) 860-4455 Ext. #23,

Tony@Guideline-technologies.com

Barry Scheur, Distributor, (800) 809-1849,

bscheur@scheur.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Manufactures Hand Guide, an object-detection device that uses infrared to detect obstacles up to 4 feet away. It is designed to supplement a cane or a dog guide.

Established: 2003.

County/District where located: Bucks County.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 2 and above.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-4:30 EST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Audible Tactile Signs and Warning Surfaces: Hand Guide.

Hitec Group International

8160 Madison Avenue

Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Tel: (630) 654-9200 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(888) 654-9219 (Fax)

(800) 536-8890 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 288-8303 (Toll-Free)

(800) 536-8890 (Toll-Free TDD)

www.hitec.com

E-mail: info@hitec.com

Kelly Alexander, Outreach Coordinator,

kalexander@hitec.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1982.

Geographic area served: USA.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM CST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Notetaker (BraillePad, Ergo Braille); Speech Synthesizer (Artic TransPort).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Calculators (Talking); Clocks (Talking); Watches (Talking Watch).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Magni-Cam).

Hooleon Corporation

305 West Denby Avenue

Melrose, NM 88124

Tel: (505) 253-4503 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(505) 253-4299 (Fax)

(800) 937-1337 (Toll-Free)

www.hooleon.com

E-mail: sales@hooleon.com

Joan Crozier, President and CEO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Custom Keyboards.

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print).

Howe Press, Perkins School for the Blind

175 North Beacon Street
 Watertown, MA 02172-2790
 Tel: (617) 924-3490 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (617) 926-2027 (Fax)
www.perkins.pvt.k12.ma.us/area.php?id=9
 E-mail: HowePress@Perkins.org

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Perkins Brailier, Writing Guides.

Howell Mobility Products

717 Louis Avenue
 Royal Oak, MI 48067-4603
 Tel: (248) 548-1788 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (248) 548-1788 (Fax)
www.howellmobility.com
 E-mail: canes@howellmobility.com
 Jerry Howell, Owner, canes@howellmobility.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2000.
County/District where located: Detroit Metro Area.
Geographic area served: International.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Sat. 9:00 AM-9:00 PM.
Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.
Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Mobility Canes.

HT Consulting

1149 Main Street East
 Hamilton, ON L8M 1P3
 Tel: (905) 544-7551 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (905) 544-8519 (Fax)
 (866) 207-9626 (TDD/TTY)
www.htconsulting.ca/

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Braillex EL 2D-80, Braillex EL 40p, Braillex EL 80, Braillex Tiny); Braille Printers (Index 4x4, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D); Screen magnification Systems (Lunar Screen Magnifier, ZoomText).

HumanWare Canada

841 Boulevard Jean-Paul Vincent
 Longueuil, PQ J46 1RS
 Tel: (450) 463-1717 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
 (450) 463-0120 (Fax)
 (888) 723-7273 (Toll-Free)
www.visuaide.com/index.en.asp
 E-mail: info@visuaide.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Digital Talking Book Players-Hardware (Victor Reader Classic Plus, Victor Reader Vibe); Digital Talking Book Player-Software (Victor Reader Soft); GPS Hardware (Trekker); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Maestro).

HumanWare USA

175 Mason Circle
 Concord, CA 94520
 Tel: (916) 652-7253
 (925) 681-4630 (Fax)
 (800) 722-3393 (Toll-Free)
www.pulsedata.com
 E-mail: info@humanware.com
 James Halliday, President and CEO,
jim.halliday@pulsedata.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Braille Star, Mod 80); Braille Printers (Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Mountbatten Brailier, Paragon Braille Printer, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote QT); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (Lunar Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows); Screen Readers (Hal, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Windows, MasterTouch for DOS, Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Synthesizers (KeyNote Gold Multilingual, KeyNote Multi-Media, **Educational Technology:** Odyssey Tactile Talking Globe, Wooly Pen.
Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000).

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

AccessAbility Division
4000 Geary Boulevard
San Francisco, CA 94118
E-mail: info@4access.com

Hy-Tek Manufacturing Company, Inc.

176-C Commercial Drive
Yorkville, IL 60560
Tel: (630) 553-9884 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(630) 553-0785 (Fax)
www.hytekmfg.com
E-mail: info@tekpanel.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Remote Control (Universal Large Button).

IBM Accessibility Center

11400 Burnet Road
Austin, TX 78758
Tel: (512) 823-0000 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(800) 426-4968 (Toll-Free)
www.ibm.com/sns

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Optical Character Recognition Systems (OPENBook); Screen Readers (IBM Screen Reader /2, Window-Eyes Standard); Windows-Based Web Browsers (Home Page Reader).

Independent Living Aids, Inc. (ILA)

200 Robbins Lane
Jericho, NY 11753
Tel: (516) 937-1848 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(516) 937-3906 (Fax)
(800) 537-2118 (Toll-Free)
www.independentliving.com
E-mail: can-do@independentliving.com
Mimi C. Berman, Vice President,
mimi@independentliving.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1977.
County/District where located: Nassau County.
Geographic area served: International.
Ages served: 1-100.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Showroom hours: Thurs.-Fri. 2:00 PM-4:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Porta-Thiel); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille 'n Speak 2000); Screen Magnification Systems (Lunar Screen Magnifier); Screen Readers (Hal, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Synthesizers (DECTalk Access32, DECTalk PC2); Tutorials (Speaking of Microsoft Access, Speaking of Microsoft Excel, Speaking of Microsoft Word, Speaking of Outlook Express, Speaking of the Internet Second Edition with Eudora, Speaking of Windows, Speaking of WordPerfect).

Educational Technology: Talking Typer.

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Calculators (Braille), Clocks (Braille), Cookbooks (Braille), Cookbooks (Large Print), Label Kits for Keyboards (Braille), Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print), Watches (Braille).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Magni-Cam, OVAC 300/200, OVAC 700/500).

Innovation Management Group (IMG)

22311 Ventura Boulevard
Suite 104
Woodland Hills, CA 91364
Tel: (818) 346-3581 (Customer service/Technical assistance)
(818) 346-3973 (Fax)
(800) 889-0987 (Toll-Free)
www.IMGPresents.com
E-mail: img@IMGPresents.com
Jerry Hussong, Vice President, Sales and Marketing

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: IMG offers software through distributors and assistive technology consultants for all types of physically and visually impaired individuals.
Established: 1995.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Geographic area served: International.

Ages served: 5-100.

Hours of operation: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM PST.

Clients served annually: 100,000.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Screen Magnification Systems (The Magnifier).

Innovative Rehabilitation Technology

13467 Colfax Highway
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Tel: (530) 274-2090 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(530) 274-2093 (Fax)

(800) 322-4784 (Toll-Free)

www.irti.net

E-mail: info@irti.net

Peter A. Proscia, President & CEO, peterp@irti.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1979.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Screen Readers (JAWS for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Mobility Canes, Watches (Braille), Watches (Talking Watch).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700).

Innoventions, Inc.

9593 Corsair Drive
Conifer, CO 80433

Tel: (303) 797-6554 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(303) 727-4940 (Fax)

(800) 854-6554 (Toll-Free)

www.magnicam.com

E-mail: magnicam@magnicam.com

Charleen Freeman, Sales Manager, (303) 797-6554,
charleen@magnicam.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

County/District where located: Jefferson County.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Magni-Cam); Low Vision Devices (Primer Electronic Magnifier, Triad Electronic Magnifier).

IntelliTools

1720 Corporate Circle
Petaluma, CA 94954

Tel: (707) 773-2000 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(707) 773-2001 (Fax)

(800) 899-6687 (Toll-Free)

www.intellitools.com

E-mail: info@intellitools.com

Dayton Johnson, Vice President, Sales,
djohnson@intellitools.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Intellikeys.

Iowa Department for the Blind

524 Fourth Street
Des Moines, IA 50309-2364

Tel: (515) 281-1391

www.blind.state.ia.us/assist

GENERAL INFORMATION

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Project ASSIST Tutorials.

ITT Industries Night Vision

7635 Plantation Road
Roanoke, VA 24019

Tel: (540) 362-8000 (Customer service/Technical assistance)

(540) 362-4574 (Fax)

www.ittnightvision.com

E-mail: nv.orderadmin@itt.com

Kim Stultz, Order Administration, kim.stultz@itt.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Night Vision Products.

JBliss Imaging Systems

P.O. Box 7382
Menlo Park, CA 94026

Tel: (650) 327-5477

(888) 452-5477 (Toll-Free)

www.jbliss.com

E-mail: info@jbliss.com

James Bliss, President, jim@jbliss.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1994.

County/District where located: San Mateo County.

Geographic area served: English Speaking Countries.

Ages served: 5-100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Windows-Based Web Browsers (Home Page Reader); VIP Version 2.6.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTV (Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy).

Keitzer Check Writing Guide

5324 Ingleside

Leesburg, FL 34748

Tel: (352) 326-3437

(352) 326-3437 (Fax)

www.checkwritingguide.com

E-mail: KCWG@aol.com

Jack Keitzer, Sales Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.

Geographic area served: National.

Ages served: 16-90.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Keitzer Multipurpose Check Writing Guide, Writing Guides.

Kurzweil Educational Systems

14 Crosby Drive

Bedford, MA 01730-1402

Tel: (781) 276-0600

(781) 276-0650 (Fax)

(800) 894-5374 (Toll-Free)

www.kurzweilededu.com/

E-mail: info@kurzweilededu.com

Michael Sokol, President and CEO,

president@kurzweilededu.com

Forrest Dobbs, Vice President, Sales

Cindy Johnson, Vice President, Marketing

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1996.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000).

Lighthouse International: The Lighthouse Store

111 East 59th Street

New York, NY 10028

Tel: (212) 821-9384

(800) 368-4111 (Fax)

(800) 826-4200 (Toll-Free)

www.lighthouse.org

E-mail: info@lowvision.com

John Indence, Vice President Marketing,

jindence@lighthouse.org

William B. Mattingly, Vice President, Professional Services, wmattingly@lighthouse.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1905.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-6:00 PM; Sat. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Offers customer service/technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: GPS Hardware (Trekker);

Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Maestro).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living

Products: Watches (Large Print); Watches (Talking Watch).

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (No Focus Magnifiers, Nonilluminated Devices, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers).

Low Vision Solutions

27520 West 7 Mile Road

Livonia, MI 48152

Tel: (248) 777-1100

E-mail: magnifymichigan@sbcglobal.net

Nancy Simmons, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-4:30 PM

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Screen Magnification Systems (ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living

Products: Address Book (Large Print), Calculators (Talking), Calendar (Large Print), Caller ID (Large

Display), Caller ID (Talking), Check Register, Clocks (Low Vision), Clocks (Talking), Color Teller, Correspondence Guides, Key Chain (Talking), Large Print and Braille Key Labels, Liquid Level Indicator II, Mirrors (Magnifying), Mobility Canes, Note Teller2, Penlight, Pens (Bold Felt-tip Pens), Pill Holder (Braille), Pill Holder (Large Print), Remote Control (Universal Large Button), Sewing Supplies, Talking Indoor/Outdoor Thermometer, Telephone (Big Button), Watches (Braille), Watches (Large Print), Watches (Talking Watch), Weighing Scales (Talking), Writing Guides.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700, Discovery Inline, Dome Magnifier, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, Max, MaxEye, MaxPanel/FlipperPanel, MaxPort, Merlin, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000, The Traveller); Low Vision Devices (Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Magna-Bar, Magna-Rule, Modular Mobile Pocket Magnifiers, No Focus Magnifiers, Nonilluminated Devices, OptiVisor, PocketMate, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers, TravelViewer, Visual Magnifier).

Medical Products: Blood Glucose Modules, Blood Pressure Modules, Eye Drop Guide, Talking Scale, Talking Thermometer, Thermometer: Sunbeam Big and Bold Thermometer, Educational Technology, VisAble Calculator.

The Low Vision Store

2200 University Avenue
Suite 180
St. Paul, MN 55114
(800) 871-8780 (Toll-Free)
www.thelowvisionstore.com
E-mail: eriknelson@thelowvisionstore.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 2002.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Calculators (Big Button); Calculators (Talking); Calendar (Large Print); Clocks (Low Vision); Clocks (Talking); Cookbooks (Large Print); Mobility Canes, Sewing Supplies, Telephone (Big Button); Watches (Talking Watch); Writing Guides

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Rainbow, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, MaxPort, Merlin); Low Vision Devices (Hand-Held

MagnifierLED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated, Pocket Magnifiers).

Medical Products: Talking Thermometer.

LS&S Group, Inc.

P.O. Box 673
Northbrook, IL 60065
Tel: (847) 498-9777
(847) 498-1482 (Fax)
(866) 317-8533 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 468-4789 (Toll-Free)
www.lssgroup.com
E-mail: info@LSSproducts.com
Melissa Balbach, President
John K. Bace, Executive Vice President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM CST.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Calculators (Talking), Watches (Talking Watch).

Medical Products: Blood Pressure Modules, Talking Thermometer.

Luxo Corporation

200 Clearbrook Road
Elmsford, NY 10523
Tel: (914) 345-0067
(914) 645-0068 (Fax)
(800) 222-5896 (Toll-Free)
www.luxous.com
E-mail: office@luxous.com
Sue Tucci, Customer Service Representative, (914)
345-0067 Ext. #290

GENERAL INFORMATION

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Magnifiers).

Magnifying Center

3950 Northwest 120th Avenue
Coral Springs, FL 33065
Tel: (954) 757-2300
(954) 757-2301 (Fax)
(800) 364-1608 (Toll-Free)
www.magnifyingcenter.com
E-mail: mail@magnifyingcenter.com
John Palmer, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000); Screen Readers (JAWS for Windows); Windows-Based Web Browsers (Home Page Reader).

Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers).

MagniSight, Inc.

3631 North Stone Ave
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Tel: (719) 578-8893

(719) 578-9887 (Fax)

(800) 753-4767 (Toll-Free)

www.magnisight.com

E-mail: sales@magnisight.com

Brian M. Smith, President

Garry Greenspan, National Sales Representative, (719)

578-8893 Ext. #115, garryg@magnisight.com

Richard Kendall, Sales, richardk@magnisight.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM (MST).

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Explorer 15, Explorer 17, Explorer 19, Explorer 20, Explorer 25, Explorer PC).

MaxiAids

42 Executive Boulevard

Farmingdale, NY 11735

Tel: (631) 752-0689

(631) 752-0689 (Fax)

(800) 522-6294 (Toll-Free)

www.maxiaids.com

E-mail: sales@maxiaids.com

Barry Greenblatt, Sales Manager, (800) 522-6294 Ext.

#802, sales@maxiaids.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Suffolk County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living

Products: Calculators (Big Button), Clocks (Braille), Clocks (Talking), Cookbooks (Large Print), Liquid Level Indicator II, Mobility Canes, VOXCOM II.

Medical Products: Talking Thermometer, VOILA (VOIced Labels Recognizer).

Michigan Low Vision

27520 West 7 Mile Road

Livonia, MI 48152

Tel: (248) 777-1127

Sal Falsette, President,

magnifymichigan@sbcglobal.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-4:30 PM.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Screen Magnification Systems (ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Address Book (Large Print), Calculators (Big Button), Calculators (Talking), Calendar (Large Print), Caller ID (Large Display), Caller ID (Talking), Check Register, Clocks (Low Vision), Clocks (Talking), Color Teller, Correspondence Guides, Key Chain (Talking), Large Print and Braille Key Labels, Liquid Level Indicator II, Mirrors (Magnifying), Mobility Canes, Note Teller2, Penlight, Pens (Bold Felt-tip Pens), Pill Holder (Large Print), Remote Control (Universal Large Button), Sewing Supplies, Talking Indoor/Outdoor Thermometer, Telephone (Big Button), Watches (Braille), Watches (Large Print), Watches (Talking Watch), Weighing Scales (Talking), Writing Guides).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Companion, Aladdin Pro 75, Aladdin Rainbow, Aladdin Rainbow Pro, Aladdin Sunshine, Aladdin Ultra, Aladdin Ultra Pro 75, Atlas 600, Atlas 610, Atlas 700, Genie Pro, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Magna-Bar, Magna-Rule, No Focus Magnifiers, Nonilluminated Devices, Olympia, OptiVisor
Medical Products: Blood Glucose Modules, Blood Pressure Modules, Eye Drop Guide, Talking Scale, Talking Thermometer, Thermometer: Sunbeam Big and Bold Thermometer

Microcomputer Science Centre, Inc. (MSC)

5288 General Road, Unit 5

Mississauga, ON L4W 1Z8

Tel: (905) 629-1654

(905) 629-2321 (Fax)

(905) 629-4369 (TDD/TTY)

(800) 290-6563 (Toll-Free)

www.microscience.on.ca

E-mail: sales@microscience.on.ca

Barouch Chai, President, (905) 629-1654 Ext. #214,

sales@microscience.on.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1980.

Geographic area served: North America.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Braillex 2D, Braillex EL 2D-80, Braillex EL 40p, Braillex EL 80, Braillex EL-2D 40, Braillex EL-2D 66, Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40 and 80, PowerBraille 65, PowerBraille 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Index 4x4, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Marathon Brailier, Mountbatten Brailier, Porta-Thiel, Romeo Braille 25, Thomas 40, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Braille Talk PC, Duxbury Braille Translator, GOODFEEL Braille, GOODFEEL Lite, MegaDots); Digital Talking Book Players-Hardware (Plextalk PTR1, Telex Scholar, Victor Reader Classic Plus, Victor Reader Vibe); Digital Talking Book Players-Software (EclipseReader, Victor Reader Soft); GPS Hardware (BrailleNote GPS); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, OPENBook); Miscellaneous Speech Products (BookCourier); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote QT, PAC Mate BX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400, Type 'n Speak, Type Lite, Voice Mate, VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, inLarge Version, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2). Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows, Vocal-Eyes, Window-Eyes Professional, Window-Eyes Standard); Speech Synthesizers (Apollo, DECTalk Access32, DECTalk Express, DECTalk PC2, Triple Talk USB); Tutorials (Listening to the Internet, Listening to Windows 98/95, Listening to Word, MAGic); Windows-Based Web Browsers (Home Page Reader, PnC Net).

Educational Technology: Custom Keyboards, Franklin Language Master 6000 SE (Franklin, Ltd.), Intellikeys, PC Talking Typing Tutor, SAL Speech Assisted Learning System, Speaking Language Master Special Edition, Talking Typer, Typewriting for Blind Students, VisAble Calculator.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Classic, Aladdin Companion, Aladdin Pro 75, Aladdin Rainbow, Aladdin Rainbow Pro, Aladdin Sunshine,

Aladdin Ultra, Aladdin Ultra Pro 75, Atlas 600, Atlas 610, Atlas 700, Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700, Genie Pro, Hand-Held Magnifier, Jordy, Magni-Cam, Merlin, Olympia, Passport, PocketMate, Portable Magni-Cam, Quicklook, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000, The Prisma, The Traveller, TravelViewer, Viewpoint Series, Visual Magnifier)

Products for Deaf-Blind/Multiple Disabled Persons: Braille phone for people who are deaf-blind, Comm Lite

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Lumby: 2023 Saddlevue Avenue, Box 838, Lumby, BC V0E 2G0, helenr@microscience.on.ca

Microsoft Corporation

One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052
(800) 426-9400 (Toll-Free)
www.microsoft.com/enable

GENERAL INFORMATION

Distribution channels: Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Microsoft Speech Engine, The Magnifier.

Mons International

6595 Roswell Road, NE, #224
Atlanta, GA 30328-3152
Tel: (770) 551-8455
(770) 551-8460 (Fax)
(800) 541-7903 (Toll-Free)
www.magnifiers.com
E-mail: salesinfo@magnifiers.com
Wendy Mons, President, wmons@magnifiers.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-8:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Address Book (Large Print), Calculators (Big Button), Calculators (Talking), Clocks (Talking), Keitzer Multipurpose Check Writing Guide.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Explorer 25, Jordy, Merlin); Low Vision Devices (Hand-Held Magnifier, Stand Magnifiers).

NanoPac, Inc. (NPI)

4823 South Sheridan Road
Suite 302
Tulsa, OK 74145
Tel: (918) 665-0329
(918) 665-0361 (Fax)
(918) 665-2310 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 580-6086 (Toll-Free)
www.nanopac.com
E-mail: info@nanopac.com
Silvio Cianfrone, President

GENERAL INFORMATION**Established:** 1988.**Geographic area served:** Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Texas.**Ages served:** 6-88.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.**Clients served annually:** 1000.**Customer service/Technical assistance:** Yes: Free.**Distribution channels:** Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.**PRODUCTS**

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, ET, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Mountbatten Brailier, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, Thomas 40, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, GOODFEEL Braille, GOODFEEL Lite, MegaDots); GPS Hardware (Trekker); GPS Software (BrailleNote GPS); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, OPENBook, ScannaR, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote PK, BrailleNote QT, Mobile Phone Organizer (MPO); PAC Mate BX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Maestro, PAC Mate QX400, Type 'n Speak, Type Lite, Voice Mate, VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT); Screen Magnification Systems (MAGic, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows, Vocal-Eyes, Window-Eyes Professional, Window-Eyes Standard); Speech Products (Dragon NaturallySpeaking's); Speech Synthesizers (DoubleTalk, DoubleTalk LT, Triple Talk USB).

Educational Technology: SAL (Speech Assisted Learning).**Low Vision:** Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL,

ClearView 700, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, Max, MaxPort, Merlin, OVAC 300/200, OVAC 700/500, Quicklook, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000).

National Federation of the Blind

1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
Tel: (410) 659-9314
(410) 685-5653 (Fax)
www.nfb.org

GENERAL INFORMATION**Established:** 1940.**County/District where located:** Baltimore County.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.**Customer service/Technical assistance:** Yes.**Distribution channels:** Catalog, Online.**PRODUCTS****Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products:** Clocks (Low Vision), Mobility Canes, Sewing Supplies, Writing Guides.**Low Vision:** Low Vision Devices (Hand-Held Magnifiers).**Medical:** Talking Thermometer.

National Lekotek Center (Lekotek)

3204 W. Armitage Avenue
Chicago, IL 60647
Tel: (773) 276-5164
(773) 276-8644 (Fax)
(800) 573-4446 (TDD/TTY)
(800) 366-PLAY (Toll-Free)
www.lekotek.org
E-mail: lekotek@lekotek.org

Diana Nielander, Acting Director,
dnielander@lekotek.org

GENERAL INFORMATION**Company profile:** Distributes training workshops and manuals for children with disabilities. Services are provided to families of children with disabilities at each center or via a toll-free Helpline at 800-366-PLAY or online (www.lekotek.org).**Established:** 1980.**Ages served:** 0-13.**Hours of operation:** Varies per center.**Customer service/Technical assistance:** Yes: Free, Priced.**Distribution channels:** Online, Showroom/retail store.

The New Vision Store, Ankenbrant Enterprises

919 Walnut Street, 1st Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Tel: (215) 629-2990
William Ankenbrant, Owner

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 11:00 AM-4:00 PM (EST).

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Calculators (Talking); Sewing Supplies.
Low Vision: Low Vision Devices (Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers).

Noir Medical Products

6155 Pontiac Trail
South Lyon, MI 48178
Tel: (734) 769-1565
(734) 769-1708 (Fax)
(800) 521-9746 (Toll-Free)
www.noirmedical.com/about.htm
E-mail: Agleichert@aol.com
Iris Prince, Sales Manager, Low Vision and Laser

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Low Vision Eye Protection Products.

Nurion-Raycal

Station Square, Building 2, Suite B
Paoli, PA 19301
Tel: (610) 640-2345
(610) 647-2216 (Fax)
(877) 577-2263 (Toll-Free)
www.lasercane.com
E-mail: info@nurion.net
Nazir Ali, President, (610) 640-2345, info@nurion.net
Anwar Ali, Vice President, (610) 640-2345,
anwar.ali@nurion.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1978.
County/District where located: Chester County.
Geographic area served: Global.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.
Clients served annually: 100.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Audible Tactile Signs and Warning Surfaces: Hand Guide.

Ocutech, Inc.

109 Conner Drive, Suite 2105
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Tel: (919) 967-6460
(919) 967-8146 (Fax)
(800) 326-6460 (Toll-Free)
www.ocutech.com
E-mail: info@ocutech.com
Henry Greene, Vice President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: VES-AutoFocus Telescope, VES(r)-K, VES(r)II, VES(r)Mini

Optelec USA, Inc.

321 Billerica Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824
Tel: (978) 392-0707
(978) 692-6073 (Fax)
(800) 828-1056 (Toll-Free)
www.optelec.com
E-mail: optelec@optelec.com
Annette Fasnacht, President, annettef@optelec.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Address Book (Large Print), Calculators (Big Button), Clocks (Talking), Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print), Penlight, Steno Pad.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700); Low Vision Devices (Dome Magnifier, Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Magna-Bar, Magna-Rule, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers).

OVAC

67-555 East Palm Canyon Drive
Unit C103
Cathedral City, CA 92234
Tel: (760) 321-9220
(760) 321-9711 (Fax)
(800) 325-4488 (Toll-Free)
www.ovac.com
E-mail: info@ovac.com
John Delaney, President, john@ovac.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: OVAC 300/200, OVAC 700/500.

Pencar Associates

137-75 Geranium Avenue
Flushing, NY 11355
Tel: (718) 939-7031
(800) 788-5781 (Toll-Free)
E-mail: pencar@joimail.com
Mark Pencar, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Low Vision: Lighting, Special Light Bulbs.

Prophecy Designs

505 Circle Drive
Robbinsville, NJ 08691
Tel: (609) 259-5318
(609) 259-5318 (Fax)
www.prophecydesigncards.com
E-mail: prophecydesigns@verizons.net
Kristina M. Sadley, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1990.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 2500.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Braille and large-print greeting cards, personalized Christmas and special order cards, and seasonal gifts.

RC Systems, Inc.

1609 England Avenue
Everett, WA 98203
Tel: (425) 355-3800
(425) 355-1098 (Fax)
www.rcsys.com
E-mail: info@rcsys.com
Randy Carlstrom, President, randyc@rcsys.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Speech Synthesizers (DoubleTalk, DoubleTalk LT, DoubleTalk PC, DoubleTalk PC/104).

Repro-Tronics

75 Carver Avenue
Westwood, NJ 07675
Tel: (201) 722-1880
(201) 722-1881 (Fax)
(800) 948-8453 (Toll-Free)
www.repro-tronic.com
E-mail: sales@repro-tronics.com
David A. Skrivanek, President, (201) 722-1880,
daves@repro-tronics.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Bergen County.

Ages served: 4-70.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Staff description: Designers of Tactile Graphic Software.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Educational Technology: Flexi-Paper, Tactile Image Enhancer, Tactile Image Enhancer Junior, Thermo-Pen.

Revolution Enterprises, Inc.

12170 Dearborn Place
Poway, CA 92064
Tel: (858) 679-5785
(858) 679-5788 (Fax)
(800) 382-5132 (Toll-Free)
www.advantagecanes.com
E-mail: advantagecanes@aol.com
Maressa Fox, Cane Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

County/District where located: Poway County.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Priced.
Distribution channels: Catalog, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Mobility Canes, White Canes for the Blind.

Sammons Preston Rolyan

4 Sammons Court
 Bolingbrook, IL 60440
 Tel: (630) 226-1300
 (630) 226-1389 (Fax)
 (800) 325-1745 (TDD/TTY)
 (800) 323-5547 (Toll-Free)
 www.sammonspreston.com
 E-mail: sp@sammonspreston.com
 Cathy Knittle, Product Manager,
 knittlca@sammonspreston.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM-7:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Medical Products: Talking Thermometer.

Sendero Group, LLC

1118 Maple Lane
 Davis, CA 95616-1723
 Tel: (530) 757-6800
 (530) 757-6830 (Fax)
 www.SenderoGroup.com
 E-mail: gps@SenderoGroup.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.
Distribution channels: Online, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Cell Phones: TALKS.
Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: ID Mate, Watches (Vibrating).

Serotek Corporation (FreedomBox)

1128 Harmon Place
 Minneapolis, MN 55403
 Tel: (612) 341-3030
 (866) 202-0520 (Toll-Free)
 www.freedombox.info
 E-mail: sales@freedombox.info
 Mike Calvo, CEO
 Bryan Kevelighan, Lead Technical Supervisor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: All of Serotek's FreedomBox product line are available for free trial at the website.
Established: 2001.
Geographic area served: International.
Hours of operation: Technical Support Mon-Fri 10:00 AM-10:00 PM EST.
Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.
Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

Sighted Electronics Inc.

69 Woodland Avenue
 Westwood, NJ 07675
 Tel: (201) 666-2221
 (201) 666-0159 (Fax)
 (800) 666-4883 (Toll-Free)
 www.sighted.com
 E-mail: sales@sighted.com
 David Pillischer, President, (201) 666-2221

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1983.
County/District where located: Bergen County.
Geographic area served: North America, South America, and Central America.
Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.
Staff description: Engineers and technical staff.
Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.
Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store, Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Braillex 2D, Braillex EL 2D-80, Braillex EL 40p, Braillex EL 80, Braillex EL-2D 40, Braillex EL-2D 66); Braille Printers (Index 4x4, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Thiel Impacto 600); Braille Translators (WinBraille); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braillex EL Braille Assistant).

Solutions For Humans

365 Tesconi Circle, Suite A
 Santa Rosa, CA 95401
 Tel: (707) 544-8000
 (707) 522-1343 (Fax)
 (800) 953-9262 (Toll-Free)
 www.sforh.com
 E-mail: staff@sforh.com & gov@sforh.com
 Jeremy Hartley, Access Technology Specialist,
 jeremy@sforh.com
 Jon Simkovitz, Low Vision, Blindness, Communication Disorders, Ergonomics & Physical Disabilities,
 jon@sforh.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: Solutions for Humans provides evaluations and training, as well as the equipment.

Established: 1989.

County/District where located: Sonoma County, California.

Geographic area served: N. California. Will travel and install systems in Illinois, Michigan, Texas, and South Carolina and will ship overseas.

Ages served: 4-100.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM West Coast Time.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free, Priced.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva ABT 340, Alva ABT 380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Wave, Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80, Braillex 2D, Braillex EL 2D-80, Braillex EL 40p, Braillex EL 80, Braillex EL-2D 40, Braillex EL-2D 66); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Index 4x4, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, Mountbatten Brailier, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, WinBraille); GPS Software (BrailleNote GPS); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, OPENBook, ScannaR, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, BrailleNote, BrailleNote BT, Braillex EL Braille Assistant, PAC Mate BX400, PAC Mate QX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (BrailleNote QT, Voice Mate, VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT, Type 'n Speak, Type Lite); (Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, Cicero Text Reader, inLarge Version, Lunar Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, MAGic, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, Hal, JAWS for DOS, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows, Vocal-Eyes, Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Synthesizer (DECTalk Access32, DECTalk Express, DECTalk PC2, Keynote Companion, KeyNote Gold Multilingual, KeyNote Multi-Media).

Educational Technology: SAL (Speech Assisted Learning).

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living

Products: Calculators (Big Button), Calculators (Talking), Calendar (Large Print), Label Kits for

Keyboards (Braille), Label Kits for Keyboards (Large Print), Large print and braille key labels.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, ClearView 100, ClearView 300, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 500, ClearView 517, ClearView 700, ERGO CCTV, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, Max, MaxEye, MaxPort, Merlin, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000, Viewpoint Series).

SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Training: Offers training in the use of computer operating systems, optical character recognition systems, screen magnification systems, speech output systems, video magnifiers/CCTVs, and word processing software. Also offers training for instructors.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES

Additional Office
22 Battery St. Suite 614
San Francisco, CA 94111
E-mail: matthew@sforh.com

Synapse Adaptive

3095 Kerner Boulevard
San Rafael, CA 94901
Tel: (415) 455-9700
(415) 455-9801 (Fax)
(800) 317-9611 (Toll-Free)
www.synapse-ada.com/
E-mail: info@synapse-ada.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1988.

County/District where located: Marin County.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 AM-5:30 PM PST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Focus Braille Displays, PowerBraille 80, PowerBraille 40, 65 and 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Mountbatten Brailier, Paragon Braille Printer, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, VersaPoint Brailier, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, GOODFEEL Braille, GOODFEEL Lite, MegaDots); GPS Hardware (BrailleNote GPS); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Kurzweil 3000, OPENBook, VERA Reading Machine); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000,

Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, BrailleNote BT, BrailleNote PK, BrailleNote QT, PAC Mate BX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (VoiceNote BT, VoiceNote QT, PAC Mate QX400); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, inLarge Version, Lunar Plus Enhanced Screen Magnifier, Lunar Screen Magnifier, MAGic, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, Hal, IBM Screen Reader/2, JAWS for Windows, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, Vocal-Eyes outSPOKEN for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional, Window-Eyes Standard, Speech Synthesizers (DECtalk Access32, DECtalk Express); Speech Products (Dragon NaturallySpeaking's); Windows-Based Web Browsers (Home Page Reader).

Educational Technology: Intellikeys.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Magni-Cam, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000).

Technologies for the Visually Impaired, Inc. (TVI)

9 Nolan Court
Hauppauge, NY 11778
Tel: (631) 724-4479
(631) 724-4479 (Fax)
www.tvi-web.com
E-mail: contact@tvi-web.com

John D. Panarese, Managing Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1994.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

Distribution channels: Catalog, Online.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Braillex 2D, Braillex EL 2D-80, Braillex EL 40p, Braillex EL 80, Braillex EL-2D 40, Braillex EL-2D 66, Braillex Tiny); Braille Printers (Braille Place, ET, Index 4x4, Index Basic D, Index Everest-D, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Porta-Thiel, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots, GOODFEEL Braille, GOODFEEL Lite, WinBraille, Braille Master); Digital Talking Book Players-Hardware (Plectalk PTR1); Digital Talking Book Players-Software (EclipseReader); Games, Speech (Grizzly Gulch Western Extravaganza, Chillingham); GPS Hardware (Trekker); Miscellaneous Speech Products (Sibelius Speaking); Notetakers (Aria, BookCourier); Optical Character Recognition Systems (Kurzweil 1000, Portset Reader); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braillex EL Braille Assistant); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (Voice Mate, VoiceNote BT); Screen Magnification

Systems (ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Vocal-Eyes, Window-Eyes Professional, Window-Eyes Standard); Speech Synthesizers (DECtalk Access32, DECtalk Express, DECtalk PC2, DoubleTalk, DoubleTalk LT, DoubleTalk PC, Triple Talk USB).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Magnilink Colibri, Magnilink Penguin, Magnilink Seagull, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000).

Transpo Industries, Inc.

20 Jones Street
New Rochelle, NY 10801
Tel: (914) 636-1000
(914) 636-1282 (Fax)
(800) 321-7870 (Toll-Free)
www.transpo.com
E-mail: info@transpo.com

Arthur M. Dinitz, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

John Karlson, Vice President, Sales, Castek & Materials

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: STEP-SAFE® precast concrete tile is designed as a detectable warning surface in full accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG, 1991 Sect. 4.29).

Established: 1967.

County/District where located: Westchester County.

Geographic area served: International/National.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM EST.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes.

Distribution channels: Online, Showroom/retail store.

PRODUCTS

Audible Tactile Signs and Warning Surfaces: STEP-SAFE®

Truxes Company

16 Stone Hill Road
Oswego, IL 60543
Tel: (630) 554-8448
(630) 554-8453 (Fax)
(888) 554-8448 (Toll-Free)
www.truxes.com/
E-mail: sales@truxes.com

PRODUCTS

Audible Tactile Signs and Warning Surfaces: Braille Signage.

Universal Low Vision Aids, Inc. (ULVA)

8 East Long Street, Suite 210
Columbus, OH 43215
Tel: (614) 224-6465
(614) 224-2258 (Fax)
(800) 369-0347 (Toll-Free)
www.ulva.com
E-mail: custserv@ULVA.com
Dessie Page, President

GENERAL INFORMATION**Established:** 1988.**County/District where located:** Franklin County.**Geographic area served:** Most products are limited to the state of Ohio.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.**Customer service/Technical assistance:** Yes.**Distribution channels:** Showroom/retail store.**PRODUCTS**

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 320/340/380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544, Braille Voyager 44, Braille Voyager 70, Focus Braille Displays, Mod 80, PowerBraille 40 and 80, PowerBraille 65, PowerBraille 80); Braille Printers (Braille Blazer, Juliet Classic, Juliet Classic 60, Juliet Pro, Romeo Attache, Romeo Braille, Romeo Braille 25, Romeo Pro 50, Thomas 40, VersaPoint Duo); Braille Translators (Duxbury Braille Translator, MegaDots); Digital Talking Book Players-Hardware (Victor Reader Classic Plus, Victor Reader Vibe); Optical Character Recognition Systems (OPENBook); Personal Digital Assistants-Braille (Braille Lite 18, Braille Lite 2000, Braille Lite 40, Braille Lite M20, Braille Lite M40, Braille 'n Speak 2000, Mobile Phone Organizer (MPO); PAC Mate BX400); Personal Digital Assistants-Speech (PAC Mate QX400, Type 'n Speak, Type Lite); Screen Magnification Systems (BigShot Screen Magnifier, MAGic, ZoomText, ZoomText Xtra Level 1, ZoomText Xtra Level 2); Screen Readers (Connect Outloud, JAWS for Windows); Speech Synthesizers (DECTalk Access32, DECTalk Express, DoubleTalk, DoubleTalk LT, DoubleTalk PC).

Educational Technology: SAL (Speech Assisted Learning).

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Clarity AF, Clarity Classmate, Clarity Flex, Clarity TravelMate, ClearView 317-75Hz, ClearView 317xl, ClearView 517, ClearView 517XL, ClearView 700, Discovery Inline, Explorer 15, Explorer 17, Explorer 19, Explorer 20, Explorer 25, Explorer PC, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, Max, MaxPort, Merlin, OVAC 700/500, SmartView 1000, SmartView 3000, SmartView 5000, SmartView 7000, SmartView 8000, The Prisma, The Traveller, TravelViewer); Low Vision Devices (Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Gooseneck Magnifiers, Hand-Held

Magnifier, LED Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers, Visual Magnifier).

Vision Technology, Inc. (VTI)

8501 Delport Drive
St. Louis, MO 63114
Tel: (314) 890-8300
(314) 890-8383 (Fax)
(800) 560-7226 (Toll-Free)
www.visiontechnology.com
E-mail: vti@vti1.com

Jim Trulaske, President and Co-Founder
James Neumeier, Vice President, Business
Development, jnuemeier@vti1.com

GENERAL INFORMATION**Established:** 1992.**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.**PRODUCTS**

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Aladdin Companion, FM1100 Black & White with 14, FM1200 Black & White Auto Focus with 14, FM1700 Color with 14, FM1720 Color with 20, FM2000 Color Auto Focus with 14, FM2020 Color Auto Focus with 20); Low Vision Devices (Hand-Held Magnifier, MousCam 500).

Vision Training Products

4016 North Home Street
Mishawaka, IN 46545
Tel: (574) 259-2070
(574) 259-2103 (Fax)
(800) 348-2225 (Toll-Free)
www.bernel.com

Craig Andrews, President, bernel@charter.net
Al Martin, Vice President, amartin553@aol.com

PRODUCTS**Low Vision:** Hand-Held Magnifier.

VisionCue

4858A SW Scholls Ferry Road
Portland, OR 97225
Tel: (503) 297-1510
(888) 318-2582 (Toll-Free)
www.aagi.com
E-mail: info@aagi.com

Douglas Gerry, Senior Sales Representative,
douglas@aagi.com

GENERAL INFORMATION**Hours of operation:** Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Computer Technology: Braille Displays (Alva ABT 320, Alva 544 Satellite Traveler, Alva 570 Satellite Pro, Alva 584 Satellite Pro, Alva ABT 340, Alva ABT 380, Alva Delphi 440, Alva Delphi 480, Alva Satellite 544); Screen Magnification Systems (inLarge Version, SuperNova Reader Magnifier for Windows); Screen Readers (Hal, outSPOKEN for Macintosh, outSPOKEN for Windows, Window-Eyes Professional); Speech Synthesizers (KeyNote Gold Multilingual); Windows-Based Browser (Home Page Reader).

Visual Insights

2507 Sugarloaf Avenue
Portage, MI 49024
Tel: (269) 329-2833
(269) 323-9918 (Fax)
E-mail: visualinsights@charter mi.net
Lori Mulder, Proprietor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company profile: All products and services are demonstrated and evaluated in the clients' home.

Established: 1991.

County/District where located: Kalamazoo County.

Geographic area served: 100 mile radius from Kalamazoo.

Ages served: 1-99.

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Clients served annually: 200.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Priced.

Distribution channels: Through a distributor.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Address Book (Large Print), Calculators (Big Button), Calculators (Talking), Check Register, Clocks (Low Vision), Clocks (Talking), Food and Supplies Marker (Braille and Non-braille), Liquid Level Indicator II, Mirrors (Magnifying), Mobility Canes, Remote Control (Universal Large Button), Sewing Supplies, Talking Indoor/Outdoor Thermometer, Telephone (Big Button), Watches (Braille), Watches (Large Print), Watches (Talking Watch), Writing Guides.

Low Vision: Video Magnifiers/CCTVs (Explorer 15, Explorer 17, Explorer 19, Explorer 20, Explorer 25, Explorer PC, Flipper, FlipperPort, Jordy, LED); Low Vision Devices (Dome Magnifier, Fixed-Stand Magnifiers, Hand-Held Magnifier, Illuminated Fixed-Focus Magnifiers, LED Illuminated Pocket Magnifiers, No Focus Magnifiers, Nonilluminated Devices, Quicklook, Stand Magnifiers, Tilt-Stand Magnifiers

Products for Deaf-Blind/Multiple Disabled Persons: Braille phone for people who are deaf-blind.

White Cane Instruments for the Blind

Route 3, Box 89A
Jenkins, MO 65605
Tel: (417) 574-6368
Michael J Brookshire, President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

PRODUCTS

Household, Personal and Other Independent Living Products: Mobility Canes.

Words+, Inc.

1220 W Avenue J
Lancaster, CA 93534-2902
(661) 723-6523 x206
(661) 723-2114 (Fax)
(800) 869-8521 (Toll-Free)
www.words-plus.com
E-mail: info@words-plus.com
Sandy Arnold, Accounting Manager, (661) 723-6523 Ext. #206, sandy@words-plus.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1981.

County/District where located: Los Angeles County.

Customer service/Technical assistance: Yes: Free.

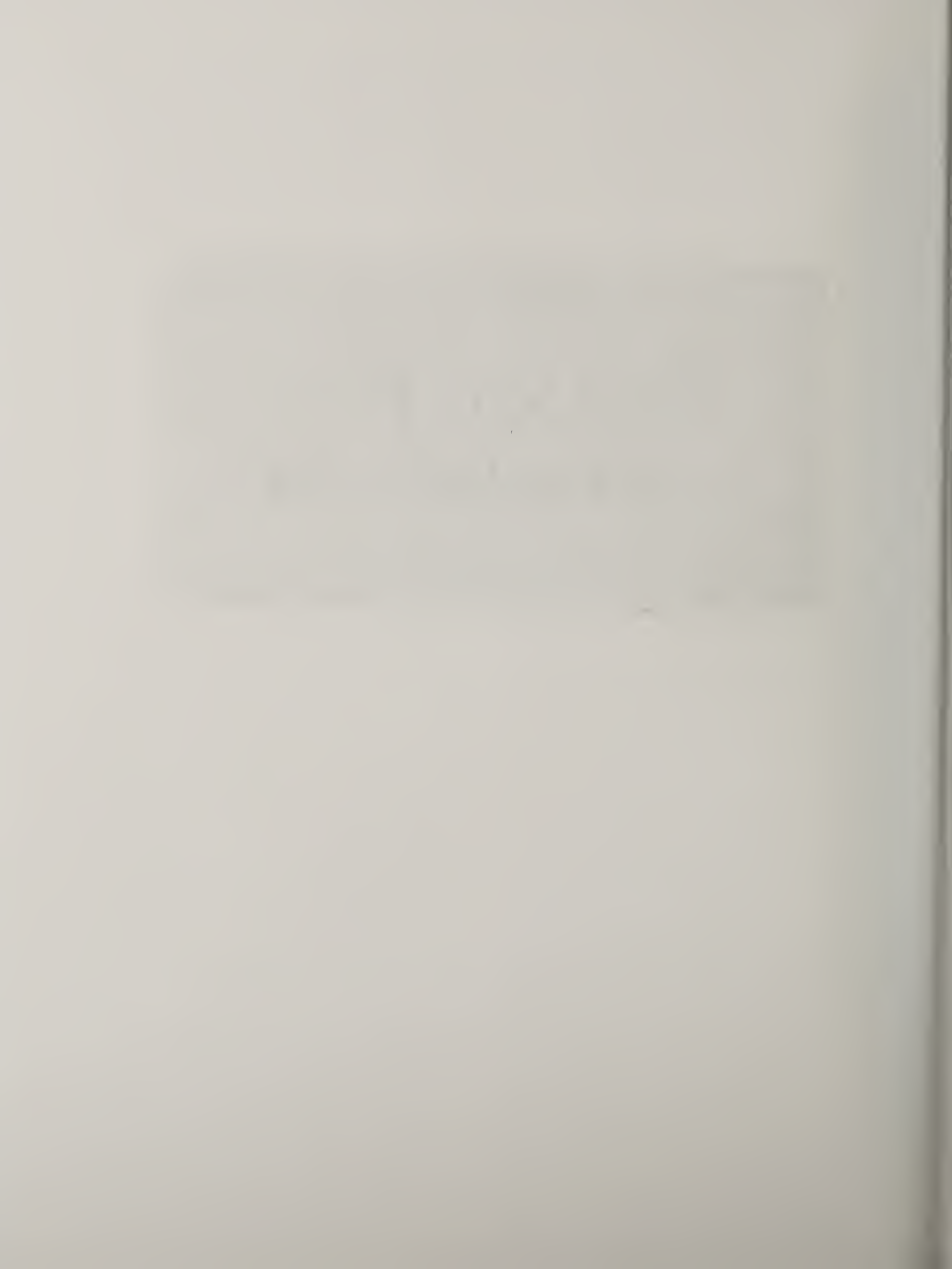
Distribution channels: Catalog, Online, Through a distributor.

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